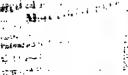
nge too late

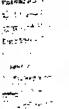
changed and Commission



Rations. mit diete Am **स्टू**संस्थात 44.... S. 1 .-- 2 波罗·2⁴⁰⁰

Market De Link 1 445 1









est the comme elamits : totalker trees. Benen maleben ! Men the wider. Attition 蘇發雞 计电子计

Bear Stone 1.00 Angelis of Live \$15.00 ter world and a series

A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR A things of the LB Section proteste es es. de base militar Atherica i . ichi fire de Miller Francis TATUT! ALDERS - 11 1 Bur Strafe PHE 150- 10 district the

which is a street



What next after A-levels? Get our 48 page guide to your future with tomorrow's Independent see page 3 for details



THE MORPENDEN

WEDNESDAY 14 AUGUST 1996

Complacency under fire

Tory MPs back down on imposing gun ban in wake of Dunblane

JASON BENNETTO and ANTHONY BEVINS

Five Tory MPs and the shooting lobby stood isolated and besieged last night in their refusal to support the banning of handguns in the aftermath of the

unblane massacre. The decision by a House of Commons committee not to recommend outlawing all pistols and revolvers because it was "too costly and impraetical" was greeted with a torrent of outrage from bereaved parents. police, anti-firearms

campaigners and politicians. The division was highlighted by the publication of a minority report by the five Labour members of the Home Affairs Committee who wanted a han on all handguns but had been out-voted by the six Conservative members.

It also became increasingly

'If we want to stall the development of a gun culture in Britain, then we should ban the private, domestic

possession of all handguns. It is simple, popular and it will work' Leading article

page 11 clear that the Government, fearing the strength of the gun lobby within its own ranks, is prepared to hide behind the inquiry into the Dunhlane shooting by Lord Cullen as cover for firm action. The Government vesterday pledged that it would enact any proposals for a gun crackdown offered by the in-

quiry, which is due to publish next month. The report. Possession of andguns, ruled out a series proposals to reform the existing were against one. guns laws and concluded that a

handgun han would produce, at best, a "minimal" improvement in public safety, and warned against "panic legislation". It questioned the impact of a ban by asking: "What would be the point of a total ban on the lawful holding of handguns hothouse cannot investigate." if there remained easy access to

unlawful handguns, and easy ac-cess both lawful and unlawful to powerful rifles, or to shotguns which, given time to reload would have the same result?" It argued that a ban could cost £17m in lost ammunition sales and accessories, and £140m in compensation to 200,000 handgun owners. It also said a ban would effectively hring an end to pistol shooting as a sport pursuit.
John Prescott, Lahour's

deputy leader, condemned the committee and said: "This is a report for the public, not for the vested interests of the gun lobby. People want a ban; it's commonsense; they can't imderstand why anyone should want to keep a lethal weapon in the comfort of their own

John Crozier, whose fiveyear-old daughter Emma was one of the 16 children murdered with their teacher by gunman Thomas Hamilton at Dumblane in March, claimed the committee had bowed to the powerful gun lobby. "I cannot believe this insult to the children and their teacher," he said.

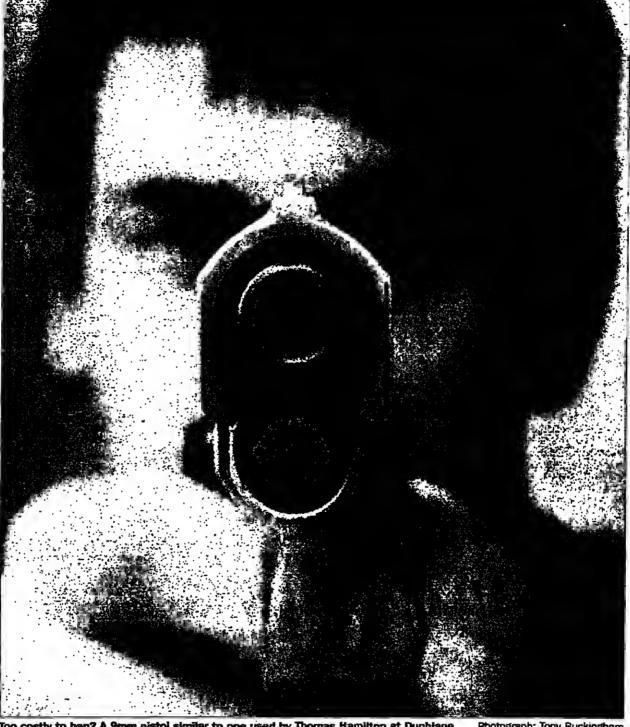
But the committee's Tory chairman Sir Ivan Lawrence accused his critics of "talking out

of the back of their heads". He added: "I am not convinced that overwhelmingly the public are in favour of a ban on legally held guns. If by banning legally held handguns we could stop (Dunblane killer) Hamilton, that would have been easy and we would have done that."

Public opinion, however, appears to be overwhelmingly behind a ban on private ownership of handguns with a recent poll showing that nearly three quarters of those questioned favoured the weapons heing

outlawed. The NOP/Sunday Times poll last month of 1,565 adults found that 72 per cent supported a ban compared to 21 per cent who

In response to the report and the remarkable backlash it has caused, David Maclean, the Home Office minister said: "We will not shirk our duty." Mr Maclean explained: "There's a whole host of things Lord Cullen has to investigate that politicians in the Westminster



Too costly to ban? A 9mm pistol similar to one used by Thomas Hamilton at Dunblane

But he then promised not only that a parliamentary slot had been left open for legislation - but that it would be filled as quickly as possible after Lord Cullen reports.

Senior Labour sources suspect that the Government has been forced to pledge action by the sheer weight of the public revulsion to Dunblane.

The Association of Chief Police Officers pronounced itself "extremely disappointed" by the report's rejection of even a partial ban on the possession of handguns. Fred Broughton, the Police Federation's national chairman, called the report "desperately disappointing".

put forward by the police. There were dissenting voices too within the Conservative Party. Former Tory minister David Mellor said the whole af-

fair had been mishandled. But the gun lobby welcomed the report's general thrust. Pat Johnson, of the British Shooting Sport Councils, said: "Our view has always been that if saying it rejected virtually every constructive recommendation

there's a calm, dispassionate look at the facts, the committee would be almost irresistibly drawn to the sort of conclusions

they were drawn to today." Jan McConchie, general secretary of the National Pistol Association, called the report "a commonsense judgment on

Photograph: Tony Buckingham

Westwood for Dior? Vivienne Westwood, ooe of Britain's most anarchie and irreverent designers, was yesterday tipped to take over the top French fashion house, Dior, replacing Italian Gianfranco

> Weighty problem Britons are getting fatter, women are drinking too much. and children are still taking up smoking in spite of the Government's targets for a healthier nation.

> CS Gas adopted Police patrol officers throughout England and Wales are to he allowed to carry CS sprays after a six-month trial was deemed a success.

Chechnya ceasefire Russian and Chechen commanders were reported to have agreed to a ceasefire yesterday. the first sign that the bloody battles over Grozny might be commg to a close.

Convention lifts off The Republican Convention in San Diego was in buoyant mood, turning fire on President Bill Clinton, after General Colin Powell and Nancy Reagan ation and compassion. Page 10

A-level pass rate rises by 2 per cent candidates took the modular ex-

GOUL HINDUL Education Editor

A rise in the A-level pass rate of just under 2 percentage points - one of the biggest improvements for seven years is expected to be revealed tomorrow when more than 300,000 candidates receive

their results. Exam officials believe that the provisional figure, under-stood to be 1.8 percentage points, is low enough to enable them to ward off criticism from traditionalists that A-level

A similar improvement in results was achieved in both1992 and 1994. The higgest improvement was in 1994 when the final figure was 1.9. Last year's increase was only 1.1 percentage points.

There has been an increase of between 1 and 2 percentage points in the A-level pass rate in each of the last 15 years. More than four out of five candidates now achieve a pass. However, the proportion of

els, in which they sit a series of tests over two years plus a final exam rather than one big exam at the end of their course.

that the pass rate would rise because candidates are allowed to resit modules but first figures suggest that the effect of the

required over two years. Only about one-quarter of all

changes in the format.

standards are falling.

candidates securing a grade A is rising more slowly.

This is the first year in which

significant numbers of candidates have taken modular A-lev-

Traditionalists had predicted

change has been limited. Although modular exams may have improved the pass rate because weak candidates who fail modules can drop out or resit them, they may make it harder for candidates to secure A grades for which a consistently high performance is

ams, mainly in English, science and mathe Both the School Curriculum

and Assessment Authority and the examination boards point to other reasons for candidates' improving performance besides

One is the improved performance of girls at A-level. Since 1989, the percentage of girls gaining three or more A-level passes has gone up from 10.4 to 16.4 per cent. The equivalent figures for boys are 11.3 and 15 per cent.

In a recent paper, the au-thority suggests that another explanation may be an increase of 20 per cent in the last 30 years in the proportion of candidates in the top two social classes. "Since performance at A-level and university entry correlates with socioeconomic grouping, the growth rates may well be re-

Alan Smithers, Brunel University's professor of public policy, said: "One reason for improving A-level results may be changes in content to include subjects such as sports studies and media studies. Another may be different types of exam includ-

ing coursework and modules.
"Perhaps the key factor may be what examiners regard as acceptable. Each year they look back to what happened last year. Candidates on the bor-

derline are rarely put down."
Tony Higgins, chief executive
of the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service, said: "If the A-level results are better than expected then, overall, more people will make the grade and there will be fewer places in clearing."

Improved results would cause no difficulties in most university departments. The only problem might be over places for medicine and dentistry where there are strict targets to be met.

CONTENTS QUICKLY Section 1

BUSINESS & CITY . . 15-19 **COMMENT** 11-13 CROSSWORD 20 GAZETTE 14 **LEADING ARTICLES . . . 11 LETTERS** 11 SCIENCE20 UNIT TRUSTS 15 ARTS8-10 CROSSWORD 26 EDENBURGH 10,11 LISTINGS 24,25



REBECCA FOWLER versity Mr Gray received a first, ing her red Ford Escort car and A young vicar with a "brilliant future" was murdered in a brufleeing. The Rt Rev David Sheppard, the Bishop of Liverpool, led a service for the shocked tal stahbing early yesterday morning in the grounds of his parish church in Liverpool, and congregation at the church in police were last night searching place of Mr Gray last night. He

for a man they describe as highly dangerous". Christopher Gray, 32, the vicar of St Margaret's Church in Anfield, Liverpool, a gifted scholar who had insisted on working in a tough urban parish, was discovered bleeding

to death by neighbours, after they heard a cry. Following the attack, a young mother of two in a house near the vicarage fought off a knifewielding intruder who burst into her home. The intruder

tried to abduct her before steal-

Vicar is murdered in churchyard

paid a glowing tribute to the priest, whom he ordained four and-a-half years ago, after the vicar's parents, who were on a walking holiday, were informed of their son's death.

The bishop said: "The death of this much-valued priest is a tremendous loss to me personally, and to all of us in the diocese. At 32 years of age, one of the ablest priests of his generation, Christopher Gray had very special gifts of scholarship."
As a student at Oxford Uni-

"with congratulations", in his history finals. He was also a talented linguist, musician and writer, but he was determined to face the challenges of an inner city church in a socially deprived area. Mr Gray had returned short-ly after midnight to his vicarage. in Thebrook, from a function en-

tertaining foreign visitors in Liverpool. At about 12,40 neighbours heard him speaking to another man whose voice became raised. They saw the man run from the scene near the church, and he then went to a house in a nearby road. He forced his way past the woman who opened the

door, threatened her with a

knife, and took her car keys.

According to Chief Inspector Elmore Davies, leading the police murder inquity, the woman was so determined to protect her two young children, who were also in the house, she found the strength to fight off the man when he attempted to abduct her.

The police revealed that the man they are seeking, named as Terence Storey, 31, had received advice from Mr Gray in recent weeks, since he was released from Liverpool's Walton

For the church the tragedy illustrates the growing risk facing clergy who have traditionally kept an open-door policy. The Bishop of Liverpool said the risk for vicars had become "part of the job" in diocese across the

we know Christopher was trying to make sure people were "One or two of my colleagues among the bishops have spoken

country as Britain has grown

He said: "If you start to say

it is more likely to happen in one

parish than another, you can't

be sure of that. We have been

advising clergy not to make

appointments with people when

they are alone in the house, and

more violent.

to me in recent months about the difficulty of asking clergy and their families to move into particular parishes," he added. But we are determined we will stay in every parish in the country. Chris was there very much by his own choice, he wanted to reinforced an image of moder**WEATHER** 25

TRAVEL 12.13

TELEVISION 28

Christopher Gray: Found bleeding to death

Stay with us on business this Summer for at least 2 nights between 22 July and 5 September '96 (Sunday to Thursday) on our rack or corporate rates and we'll give you one weekend night FREE. With 78 hotels to choose from throughout the UK and Ireland, it's easy to see why we're number one for business travellers.



For more details of this special '3 for 2' offer or to make a booking please call, up to 9pm, 7 days a week 0800 40 40 40 or call your travel agent

Road block: Wreckage lying across the A40 in west London after an aircraft landing at RAF Northolt crashed through a fence into a van yesterday. The van's driver, Gary Jewel, escaped with minor injurias, as did tha jet's captain and its passenger, actress Lisa Hogan. The co-pilot was being treated for a fractured nose and severe cuts. Photograph: PA

Electronic spying gleans

A new book published in New Zealand today is likely to irri-tate Western intelligence chiefs, with its detailed account of the giobal electronic intelligence network being used by the English-speaking nations to spy on the world's communications from top-level diplomatic and military messages to babble on the Internet.

The book, Secret Power, by political campaigner Nicky Hager, is based on interviews with past and present intelligence employees who have worked on the search through intercepted top secret new system, called Echelon. The system is used by Britain's electronic spy agency GCHQ, as well as by its American, Australian and Canadian counterparts.

To avoid the risks of another Specatcher legal action by the British government or by the Now, even security cleared up-

Power maintained a news blackout about their plans until last

messages according to target lists of subjects and people.

fore Echelon different countries and different stations knew what was being intercepted and The Dictionary computers

tionary search results appear "almost instantaneously"

their information. "The [intel-

ligence] agencies can all apply for numbers on each other's Dictionaries. The hardest to deal with are the Americans. [There are] more boops to jump through, unless it is in their interest in which case

network.

allowed the Echelon project to go ahead in New Zealand.

people," Mr Lange says, had told the author "things that I as Prime Minister in charge of the intelligence services was never

tegrated electronic network".

on their own territories.

moves, changes or adds words to a document, and occasionally inserts the word "wazzu". It is spread by apening an "infected" document - though there is no way for the hapless user to know ahead of time if the document poses a risk, unless they have one of a new breed of viruschecking programs to gnard against it.

Virus

plagues

Microsoft

Word

Have you seen a wazzu lately?

If not, then count yourself lucky

-for the newest virus to hit the

world of computers is spread-

ing like wildfire, since its ap-

pearance around the beginning

Sightings have already been

reported in the UK, US, Israel

and Iceland of the latest

"macro virus", which infects documents written with Mi-

crosoft's Word word-processing

program - possibly the most widely-used piece of office soft-

The Wazzu virus randomly

ware in the world.

CHARLES ARTHUR

Science Editor

The effect would be disasas a contract, which could be riddled with gibberish. Also, any further documents written with doyenne of the Tory backbench an infected program will also wazzu at random. Anybody who receives a Word document written by an infected program will in turn be infected too.

"Wazzo appears to be the most advanced macro virus to date," said Shannon Jenkins, of Touchstone Software, in London. "And it is spreading like wildfire,"

"It is already the second most common macro virus," said Graham Cluley, senior technology consultant at Dr Solomon's Anti-virus in Ayles-

Macro viruses consist of a series of instructions embedded in a document which tell the user's machine to automatically carry nut various instructions Unlike standard viruses, macro viruses are not limited to one particular make of computer: they can affect PCs or Apple Macintoshes. It can be spread by Word files sent in e-mail, or

on finppy discs.
Such viruses are unly possible because Microsoft has increasingly made Word less like a replacement for the typewriter, and more a programmers' tool, which can carry out independent instructions such 2s opening files or writing words without the user's intervention. Millions of copies are used worldwide, but most people use only a fraction of the

program's capability. "To consider taking out the functionality [that makes macro viruses feasible] would be a step back for the industry," said Stuart Anderson, Microsoft UK's support services manager. "I mean, can you have too much functionality?"

SIGNIFICANT SHORTS

The RUC was last night accused of conducting a witchhunt against officers who belong to the Protestant
Orange Order. Four men, a sergeant and three part-timers,
have been suspended after claims they took part in parades
in Co Fermanagh. Officers are not prohibited from
belonging to any of the loyal orders – they include the
Apprentice Boys and the Royal Black Institution – but they
can face disciplinary action if they take part in parades.

Police confirmed four officers had been suspended from
duty while the force's complaints and disciplinary hranch

duty while the force's complaints and disciplinary hranch investigate unspecified allegations. But Unionists claimed the suspensions were part of a move against policemen who are members of the various organisations.

As another postal strike went ahead today, the head of the Royal Mail warned its future was at stake. The managing director, Richard Dykes, who has just written outlining the latest offer to all the service's post workers, said rivals would not hesitate to exploit the disruption if it continued. Several local post services have begun since Ian Lang, the President of the Board of Trade, temporarily contended the Porel Mail's managed on letters under fit suspended the Royal Mail's monopoly on letters under £1.

Meanwhile, magistrates' and crown courts could be disrupted next month if 2,000 administration workers vote to strike over a pay dispute. Members of the Civil and Public Services Association in the Crown Prosecution Service are being balloted on a week-long dispute in protest at a new performance-related pay offer. Louise Jury

ospital trusts are on target to free more than £100m for extra clinical care, through efficiency savings aimed at excessive red tape and hureaucracy in the NHS, Stephen Dorrell, the Secretary of State for Health, said yesterday. But the amouncement was marred by criticism from hospital managers, who say that the drive to cut administrative costs has compromised patient care in many parts of the country, while the health care unions said that the target of 5 per cent cuts set for this financial year could only be achieved at the expense of clinical excellence.

Mr Dorrell, for whom reducing bureaucracy in the NHS has become something of a personal crusade, rejected the claims. He said in addition to savings of £103m he was predicting - a cut in real terms of 8 per cent - health authorities would this year also reduce their administration costs by £39m. This, in turn was on top of £14m already saved in 1995-96. Liz Hant

he poor state of the West Coast Main Line - scene of last week's Watford train crash - has been hlamed by a passenger group for appalling standards of reliability. The North-western Rail Users Consultative Committee (RUCC) said the line failed to achieve the Passengers' Charter target of 90 per cent of arrivals on time or within 10 minutes, and sometimes sank to only 60 per cent punctuality.

It blamed the continuing need for renewal and modernisation of the track and signalling for many of the problems. Despite promises of investment, the plan "seems to have been slowed by the privatisation process". The criticism comes just days after the crash at Watford, in which one woman was killed and 60 people injured when a commuter train collided with an empty traio. Louise Jury

hree collectors of birds' eggs were fined a total of £7,600 yesterday for illegal possession of rare specimens. They appeared before magistrates at Salishury, Wilts, following a nationwide police and RSPB operation codenamed Avocet - aimed at collectors and traders in rare breed eggs, which are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Geoffrey Peirson, 48, a property developer, was fined a total of £5,000 with £80 costs, while businessman Anthony Parkes, also 48, and scaffolder Michael Sloane, 36, were respectively fined totals of £1,600

The court heard that when police raided Parkes's home last September, they found more than 10,000 eggs - ooe of the largest seizures in Britain. It has been illegal since 1954 to collect wild birds' eggs. All three defendants were members of the Jourdain Society - a respected charity body which studies eggs. A society meeting in Salisbury was raided by police in July, 1994. This gave rise to the later Operation Avocet, named after the rare hird which forms the logo of the RSPB.

Dollce have begun preparing for the arrival of French detectives investigating the sex killing of 13-year-old Caroline Dickinson on a school trip to Brittany. In her home town of Launceston, Devon and Cornwall force Inspector Paul Munns said he anticipated the French

inquiries "could take some time".

The Launceston Community College pupil was raped and suffocated in a tiny dormitory at a hostel in Pleine Fougeres on 18 July. She was among a party of 35 girls and five boys from the 1,200-pupil college on a week-long trip, together with five teachers. Insp Munns said it was not known whether the French police would require DNA samples from the boys on the trip. The cross-Channel initiative followed the release of 39-year-old drifter Patrice Pade, who confessed to Caroline's murder but was cleared when his DNA did not match samples taken from her.

Ateenager was fined £350 for playing loud music in this car. Gary Smith, 19, appeared before Eastbourne magistrates yesterday, after the borough council brought a case against him under the Control of Pollution Act 1974. He denied a charge of playing a loud speaker in a car which could cause annoyance between 9pm and 8am.

Magistrates heard the case followed a crackdown by police in the town following residents, complaints. Smith, of

police in the town following residents' complaints. Smith, of Cobbold Avenue, Eastbourne, was stopped in his H-registered Vauxhall Cavalier, inside which police discovered a giant speaker on the back seat.

crippled yesterday by the first of a series of one-day strikes in a row over crews' working hours. Nearly 30 ratings on three inter-island ferries stopped work in a dispute over their claim for "even time" working of two weeks on, two weeks off. The municipally-run ferry company argues this could only be achieved by hiring more ratings, and that would increase costs by more than 13 per cent.

Aparking warden has made an official complaint Against the police after he was arrested and handcriffed for trying to put a ticket on a van outside Buckingham

The warden defied a policeman who ordered him to ignore the vehicle, making a delivery at a goods entrance. But when the warden continued about his business, the policeman arrested him, handcuffed his hands behind his back and frogmarched him away. He was also told he was in danger of being charged with obstructing police before being released without any further action being taken.

world's 'top level secrets'

DUNCAN CAMPBELL

night, when copies were re-leased in New Zealand cities. The New Zealand whistleblowers describe Echelon as an automated international surveillance system, which integrates secret monitoring stations across the globe using the intelligence agencies' own network of satellites and listening bases. At each hase, computers known as Echelon

The significance of the new system, says Hager, is that be-

New Zealand government on its erators may not know what behalf, the publishers of Secret raw information is being sent out, or to whom.

> hold lists of different categories of intercept available on the sys-tem, identified by code. The tar-gets in the South Pacific include Japanese commercial and diplomatic messages as well as tionary computers have been inregional communications and the operations of Russian fishing boats and Antarctic bases. According to operators, Dic-

By 1992, according to a former national security agency chief, the overall international system was processing 2 million intercepted messages every hour. An unnamed New Zealand Echelon operator says that while the Americans have access to everything collected by its allies, they do not share all

they'll do it for you." The operatives say that Dic-

stalled throughout the world at listening stations and intelligence agency headquarters. GCHQ's London Dictionary computers scan telex and data messages passing through British Telecom's international

In a foreword to the book, David Lange, who was Prime Minister of New Zealand from 1984-89, says that much of the book's information has come as a surprise to him, despite having takeo a decision which

told... It is an outrage that I and other ministers were told so little. This raises the question of to whom those concerned saw themselves ultimately answer-Mr Lange admits that he grudgingly anthorised the construction of a New Zealand satellite monitoring station in

1984 but says he had no idea that thereby we had been com-mitted to an international in-The importance of the new

Pacific stations linking into the Echelon system, says Hager, was that after the late 1980s, Britain and America could oo longer listen to all the world's communications solely from stations

Committee on guns: Chairman hits back at opponents of decision not to endorse ban

Critics are accused of hysteria

ANTHONY BEVINS Political Editor

Critics of the Commons home affairs committee decision to reject a ban on the domestic possession of handguns - including the Association of Chief Police Officers – were being hysterical. Tory chairman Sir Ivan

Lawrence said yesterday. Snatching the chance of a as Recorder, the backbench QC judged that his critics were "talking out of the hack of please many of his backbench

JASON BENNETTO

Come Correspondent

The five Labour members on

the committee of MPs investi-

gating firearms were furious

with their Tory colleague's re-

fusal to recommend outlawing

most handguns. In an unusual

move they have published their

■ To "dramaticatty reduce" the

ownership of guns in private

hands. The committee noted the

possible emergence of a gun cul-

ture based on the ready avail-

ability of firearms. It also

highlighted "a powerful shoot-ing lobby which is unlikely to ac-

cept any serious restrictions".

■ The private possession of

handguns should be banned.

Their recommendations

own "minority report".

include:

their heads". It was a typically robust and forthright response from Sir Ivan, one of the most resilient and thick-skinged men in the House. One Labour MP who has watched him closely over recent years describes him as a "mega-workaholic".

Some Tory colleagues are surprised that a man of Sir Ivan's undoubted ability had never heen a minister. Neverbreak from a London court theless, Sir Ivan has proved hearing in which he was sitting there is a role and a political purpose on the back benches. And he has filled it in a way that will

committed with illegally held

guns reducing the number in cir-

culation can only improve mat-ters. Calls for partial bans were

ruled out as "impracticable".

Exceptions could be made to

specific activities and occupa-

tions such as RSPCA inspectors,

veterinary surgeons, knacker-men and athletic starting pistols.

A small number of guns

clubs that can demonstrate that

firearms used at the clubs could

be securely kept, at a central

point, and in such a way they do

Labour 'minority'

makes voice heard

colleagues on the guns issue. For most Tories, it is taken as read that the gun lobby - like the hunting lobby, farming, big and small business - have to he deferred to, which is why the Government wants to hide behind Lord Cullen if a guns crackdown is required in the wake of Dunblane.

Once upon a time, at a private lunch party held by Alas-tair Goodlad, now Chief Whip, perennial rebel Alan Clark turned up wearing an antihunting tie. During the meal, Mr Goodlad became so in-

censed by this provocation that Welshpool. Dame Jill Knight. he picked up a pair of scissors and cut off Mr Clark's tie at the knot. It was a jolly jape, hut it also tells us much about the nature of the Tory hunt - and where its loyalty lies.
For the Tories on the home

affairs select committee, the point would not have needed making. No caucus would have been necessary for John Greenway, MP for the Yorkshire constituency of Ryedale; Warren Hawksley, MP for Halesowen and Stourbridge and owner of a country house hotel near

1922 Committee; and Walter Sweeney, MP for the most marginal Vale of Glamorgan. The one hope of Tory defection on the committee, which has an inbuilt one-vote Tory majority, was David Ashby, the colourful MP for North West Leicestershire - libel case loser and one of the few Tory MPs to have been deselected by his local party as candidate for the next election. In the event, Mr Ashby was so independent-minded that he went with the pack.

The 48-page majority report on fireways refuses to ben handgine on grounds of cost, peac-tically, and effectiveness. Rateo rules out other vide ranging measures, opting instead for changes of existing structure and improved police scratter. The six Tory MPs on the Home Affairs Select Committee report Possession of Handguns decided: Bearing the possession of all guns would be "too far reaching and "ineffective" as it would not, prevent unstable individuals from gaining access to guns illegally. game shooting and clay pigeon

not pose a public risk, may be considered as exceptions to the general ban.

Methods of reducing the number of legally held shotguns must be considered as several deaths have been caused by these weapons recently. ■ Shotgun certificates should no The Labour MPs argue that al-though a large proportion of live in towns and cities, where crime involving firearms are there is not justifiable use.

THE MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS

events and single shot models be-cause they doubt it would "make a mass filling any less likely".

Holding handgurs in a centrally

shorting.

MA ban on hardains was turned down because it would have down because it would have The committee bund signitrade, employment and cost imtrade, em The Tory members said "particles" islation " should be avoided. They conclude that banning of allguns would bring only "minimal" QPs should supply medical in-improvement to public safety. Townstion about a person apply

They also reject barning at handgurs except those used in sports

stored area, such as a gun deal-er or club, was ruled out because the committee did not believed that a "determined criminal would be prevented from using a weapon for dramal purposes". Meeping handguns separate from ammunition unless they were on licensed premises was turned down because of practical difficulties. cal difficulties.

A proposel for restricting the number of handgars are inclined.

esi can hold was rejected.

Positive recommendations in-

ing for a gur certificate and ale application form should be checked and signed by the doc-tor. The British Medical Associa-

tion has simedy fejected this proposal. A hetionwide dystem for sharing information between police forces should be set up. Names of offenders involved in videoce threats or introduction should be checked against records of finearm and should refitticate holders.

Two references should be provided. The reference should then be glestioned by the police.

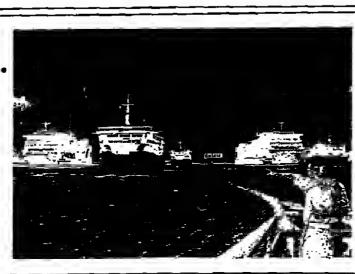
per questioned by the police, and the More needs to be done by Outindividual to the service to the service of the service to the service of the service of

longer had good reason for pos-

Cruise to Calais in comfort...

RELAX and just cruise across from Dover to Calais the shortest see route to France. Large, luxurious car ferries with shops, restaurants and antertainment on board, plus hovercraft, provide rapid, comfortable crossings with a departure every thirty minutes. Fast on and off loading on both sides of the Channel helps to speed your journey. Instant motorway access from Calais port provides an open door to the entire

European motorway network.



For a shopping day, a relaxing stay or for immediate access to motorway...

...begins with sea.

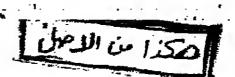
DOVER/CALAIS OVER 140 CROSSINGS DAILY O EUROPEAN FERRIES, STENA LINE, SEAFRANCE & HOVERSPEED.

THE INDEPENDENT ABROAD Austria Sch40 NTands PIS.00 OVERSEAS SURSCRIPTIONS

Beiglum 85:80 haly £4,500 Ar mad, 13 weeks; Europa £110.76; Zone 1 (Medde CenteresPs:300 Medica Ec:325 East, America, Alexa and India) £184.08, Zone 2 (For France Fr.14 Spein Pts.300 538 8269. Check cards redome. Germany ... DMA.5 Sweden. ... SW21 Greece Dr450 Switzerland . Str4.00 Back leaves of the independent are excludite from

BACK ISSUES

Lummbourg . . . 1980 USA \$3.00 Historic Handpubes, blenhone 01988 840370.



THE INDEPENDENT A-LEVEL RESULTS ARRIVE ON YOUR DOORSTEP TOMORROW

BE READY, BUY THE INDEPENDENT

If you are among the 250,000 studeots who will discover tomorrow. The Independent and the Independent on Sunday are - for the sixth morning whether you have made the grades you need into the col- year running - the only papers that will run all the official UCAS results day supplement - is the best place to start.

vacancies for courses and tutorial colleges.

We will offer advice on your next move: how to contact the admissions officers, how to find an alternative course, whether to take a year out before starting your studies, how to cope with money, and how to make sure you apply to the most suitable tutorial college.

lege or university of their choice, then Your Choice -our 48-page lists of university and college vacancies. Others may claim to car-We will provide a phone directory for colleges, along with pages of

The first clearing listings will appear on Monday August 19. Thereafter they will appear on

Monday 19 August Sunday 1 September Wednesday 4 September Sunday 8 September Wednesday 21 Angust Sunday 25 August Tuesday 27 August Thursday 29 August Wednesday 11 September

Make sure you order your Independent now, to make sure you make the grade tomorrow

UCAS



She denies it of course. But Vivienne Westwood, the British former queen of punk, is tipped to take over

Will this be Dior's new look?

TAMSIN BLANCHARD FASHION EDITOR

IT SHORT

CASE NAME OF THE OWNER.

The State of the State of

CO. 102 .--

Foot Coast Variation

Libertal Land

Marie ...

-

MANS. 7. 4.

THE PARTY.

L LUNE .

to the a service.

BETTERS 21 1/22/21 21 1

F. 127

pling garacularity - · · ·

-

Mittelffeit eitem beim

um tibur Gebrery er fareit.

gade de esta a la compa

margine aben bereit.

the first of a es uprikitet 🕆 per aus illing ・ 競技権を対す。 施 Karlo Allian () E MAR COME WATER MAG TO A

हो किस **का** अने अंदर्शन **я д 593.** (н.) ¹10. Mark Servers 185 . . . 金额的数 100 11 11

Marian at Maria kanaja julija ar i i i i i Marie Land

Therein:

She was the Queen of Punk and reigns over British design as its most anarchic, irreverent champion. And now Vivienne Westwood is tipped to take over the king of French fashion houses, Christian Dior.

The rumours hegan that Westwood, who first made her hark on fashion with the punk store Sex and Seditionaries, would take over Dior when its present head Gianfranco Ferre announced his departure in

But yesterday the fashion world whispers suggested that Dior has already appointed Westwood and is waiting to make an official announcement at the October shows in Paris. when Ferré steps down,

Westwood denied the rumour. "We would like to declare untrue the rumours on Mrs Westwood's appointment at the House of Christian Dior," a statement from her British office said. "Mrs Westwood is very honoured by the rumour, but at the moment her main concern is to organise the ready-toyear spring/summer 1997 show

Dior, estimated to turn over more than £1bn a year, celehrates its 50th anniversary in 1997. Whether Westwood is its next conturier and whether she is given the job is almost irrelevant. The very fact that she is under consideration is a coup, not only for her hut for the British fashion industry as a whole.

Design houses from New York to Milan come to London in search of talent fresh from our fashion colleges. Now, it seems, the brain-drain is reaching up into the highest echelons of the industry.

Since John Galliano took over at the French couture house Givenchy, British designers have looked set to conquer the fashion world, if not commercially, at least creatively. British talent has already cleaned up in just about every other aspect of the fashion industry: the editors of the two leading American fashion magazines, Anna Wintour and Liz Tilberis are both British, as are the leading fashion photographers Albert Watson, Craig McDean, Glen Luchford and David Sims.

British models are the most sought-after. Carolyn Park, one of the young British models who featured in the summer's Gueci campaign, is also making waves with the Italian tabel MaxMara, Hugo Boss, and Versace's diffusion line, Versus. One of the latest to hit the big time commercially is the Scottish aristocrat, Honor Fraser, currently to be seen in a whote lost of international advertising campaigns that include Ungaro, Russell & Bromley, Rena Lange, and Isaac Mizrahi.







Christian Dior is owned by sales are the key to haute cou-







LVMH (Louis Vuitton - Moet Hennessy) the same company that owns Givenchy, and Louis Vuitton. John Galliano's eccentricity and refusal to compromise has created more publicity for Givenchy than the house has seen since Audrey Hepburn wore its clothes in Funny Face. And publicity is what it is all about; perfume ture, while jeans lines, accessories, sunglasses and hosiery



licences are increasingly the key to ready to wear. LVMH is in the market for a designer who will not so much make beautiful, wearable clothes, as a designer who will generate as much publicity as possible. Now, the rumour and speculation that accompanied the decision over who would take the reins at Givenchy are heing

knowledge of the history of fashion which is important if a designer is to respect the history and tradition of Dior, the hous which was founded in 1947 with the controversial New Look. She was in Paris during the haute couture season, attending the annual cocktail party thrown by the Chambre Syndicale de la Couture Parisirepeated. Westwood would be enne. Westwood also attended a logical contender to design Dior. She, like Galliano, has a Yves Saint Laurent's show, enthusing afterwards about the exfascination and comprehensive pertise that a couturier like

Alexander McQueen, Christian La Croix, Marc Jacobs and Jean-Paul Gauttie

Saint Laurent has at his fingertips. "He could do anything he wanted," she said, imagining perhaps, a more flamboyant, over-the-top collection. In an interview with Le Figuro

in July, Dior's chairman, Bernard Arnault, said: "I want modern creativity in the spirit of Christian Dior himself." And it seems as though he is looking in the right direction. Other designers rumoured to have been approached include the hip downtown New York

American, Marc Jacobs, a favourite of the Croydon supermodel Kate Moss; Martin Margiela, the original avantgarde deconstructivist designer who has managed to remain a cult underground figure while huilding up a thriving business on sale in the world's feading department stores; Jean-Paul Gaultier, the whacky designer and TV presenter might not seem such an outlandish suggestion, considering his early days under the tutelage of



and REBECCA FOWLER

Third

woman

The "cash for foetuses" fiasco hit a new low last night, when a woman who is 20 weeks pregnant with twins told a newspaper that she may abort one or both babies because her house was too small, and her marriage is threatened by their birth.

"Pro-life" groups, who last week raised thousands of pounds to halt what was thought to be the first selective termination of a twin in Britain, say they fear that some women are now heing tempted to hold their unborn babies to ransom in the hope of cash handouts.

Nuala Scarisbrick, of the anti-abortion charity Life, said it would be investigated thor-oughly to determine if it was a genuine case, worthy of help. "We have asked for 72 hours to look into this. We have a small sum of £10,000 available but we are aware of the possibility of people seeing us as some kind of golden egg."
The development follows the

ulter controversy last week over a woman who had one of her twins selectively aborted because she could not cope with two. Scarcely had that furore died down when it was revealed that a 31-year-old woman, Mandy Allwood, who was car-rying eight embryos, would con-tinue with the pregnancy after she and her partner struck a deal for up to £1m with the News of the World.

The latest case, reported in the Oxford Mail, involves a woman who lives with her husband and two children in a three-bedroom house in Banhury. She said she and her husband talked about getting rid of one child, but now it might have to be both. "I don't want to get rid of either of them. He thinks it's not fair to keep one and not the other. If we had somewhere to put them it might be different, but we'd struggle so much I don't think my husband will cope with it all.

"I might have to do it for the sake of my other kids. They couldn't go without a dad and I don't think my husband will cope with the pressure of more kids. I think he'll teave and I don't want that."

Meanwhite the saga of Mandy Allwood, and her partner, Paul Hudson, 37, continued yesterday with the entrance of his mother who declared that her son was a "shameless opportunist". Syhil Wheeler added: "I think the real reason he is so happy about the pregnancy is because he believes it will make him rich."



Cardin; Christian

Lacroix, who heads up Paris's

youngest couture house bearing

his own name, has also been

Two other young British de-signers who would certainly

cause a stir were they to be ap-

pointed are Alexander Mc-

Queen and Hussein Chalayan.

McQueen however, would not

take the joh. "There is only one Paris fashion joh for me," he

said. "Yves Saint Laurent."

Now that would be interesting.

Pierre

talked about.

the many time that the second of the second of the second of

MICHELIN PILOTS NUMBER 50 VICTORIES

Michelin Pilots have notched up an impressive 50 victories in the three years since Michelin entered the British Touring Car Championship. That's more than all other competing tyre manufacturers put together and 58% of the total of Champions



number of starts since 1993. Moreover, Michelin Pilots won the Championship outright in 1994 and 1995.

And it should come as no surprise that most of the famous "Pilots" this year are racing on Michelin - Cleland, Harvey. Leslie,

Menu, Radisich, Rydell and Winkelhock to name but a few. And no wonder that this year Michelin Pilot tyres are also the choice of virtually all the leading car marques -BMW, Ford, Honda, Nissan, Peugeot, Renault, Vauxhall and Volvo.

Make Michelin Pilot tyres your first choice. After all, they are the choice of champions.



YESTERDAY

Parcelforce delivered over half a million parcels.

TODAY

We'll deliver more than most carriers do in a month.

TOMORROW

We'll still be providing the same non-stop service as today.



YOU CAN SEE WHAT PUTS PARCELFORCE OUT ON ITS OWN

Parcelforce can still deliver more parcels every working day than any other carrier. Still delivers to 99.6% of the world's population. And is still getting bigger.

In fact, nobody delivers more. Or further.

So if you haven't done so already, find out what makes Parcelforce Britain's favourite parcel carrier.

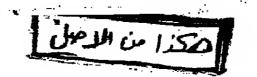
Just call our Customer Service number

0800 22 44 66



The Power to Déliver-Worldwide

Parcelforce's UK and International services are not affected by the Royal Mail dispute.



is crate

amp

he sc

Fitness campaign fails to tip the scales

British men and women are get-ting fatter, women are drinking too much, and children are still taking up smoking, in spite of the Government's targets to

Chief Political Correspondent

make Britain a healthier nation. The Secretary of State for Health, Stephen Dorrell, was warned by the National Audit Office (NAO) that the NHS was failing to meet three key targets which it set four years ago for reducing obesity, drinking among womeo, and smoking by

Il to 15-year-olds.
The Health of the Nation targets are a central plank in the Government's campaign for a bealthier country, and the find-ings of the NAO will come as an embarrassment for ministers.

The report said the Department of Health set a target of reducing obesity among men by 25 per cent by the year 2005, but the number of overweight men bad more than doubled to 12 per cent.

Women, however, appear to be worse at fighting the flab. The NAO found that obesity had nearly doubled to more than 15 per cent of the female population, in spite of the NHS target of reducing the percentage of fat women by one third

Perhaps more worrying for the Government is the continued rise in smoking among schoolchildren, in spite of its attempts to cut the trend, including bans on tobacco

advertising near schools.
The Government set a target of reducing smoking among 11 to 15-year-olds by a third by 1994 after finding that 8 per cent were smokers. But the NAO found that 8 per cent was probably the low point. It remained at 10 per cent before rising to 12 per cent. "This suggests that the actions taken or co-ordinated by the Department of Health to reduce smoking amoog children bave oot been

successful," says the report. Mr Dorrell yesterday rejected pressure to ban advertising of tobacco products. He denied such a ban would help to stop young people smoking, and insisted that higher prices were more likely to stop young people taking up the habit.

Liberal Democrat spokesman. Simoo Hughes, for allowing one school to be sponsored by

crease the pressure for more concerted action to reduce preveotable illness. The NAO report oo the Government's Health of the Nation targets, set in 1992, found that progress was being made in 11 areas, including strokes, breast cancer for 50 to 69-year-olds, suicide, lung cancer for men under 75, accidents, and gonorrhoea.

It was making some progress towards its targets in six other areas, including cigarette smokmg among men and women, the consumption of saturated fats in food, and nuder-age pregnancies. But there was too little in-

formation to make a judgement on the targets for blood pressure, cervical cancer, skin cancer and giving up smoking in pregnancy. There had been no change in lung cancer in women under 75, or in drinking among men. And there was insufficient useful data on mental illness leading to suicide, or on drug misusers sharing needles (a prevalent cause of Aids).

The NAO called on the Government to take further action where targets were not being met, and to improve the supply of data. But it did not offer any practical ideas on how Mr Dorrell can act to change people's lifestyles.

children regard smoking as fashionable, they are unlikely to take the warnings seriously. The anti-Aids campaign raised

"Nanny knows best". But another former health minister, Edwina Currie, was accused of adopting a hectoring tone when she advised people about their dietary habits. Mr Dorrell, a thin man who drinks little, and who does not smoke, may be the right role model for the targets, but be has no plans to act as the

However, the Government has come under fire from the a tobacco company.

The report is likely to in-

There are initiatives being planned to tackle obesity and teenage smoking, but as long as questions about the value of shock advertising on young

people.
Virginia Bottomley, the former Secretary of State for Health, used to tell ber officials:



Cheers: Two women meet for a drink in a wine bar; the government campaign to reduce women's consumption of alcohol has had little effect Photograph; Andrew Buurman

Private hospitals hit as fewer pay for cover

NICHOLAS TIMMINS Public Policy Editor

The number of subscribers to private medical insurance dipped last year, with more private hospital beds closing than opening for the first time

Despite the presence of congrowth in private bealth cover, 1995 remained essentially flat, figures published in Laing's Review of Private Healthcare, the annual "Bible" of the private

health care industry, show. And the National Health Service is continuing to take private patient business away from private hospitals, with NHS paybeds increasing their share of the market last year to an

estimated 15.1 per cent, against a little over 11 per cent in 1988. Some 6.5 million people, or around 11 per cent of the population, are covered for private

figure has remained unchanged for five years.

صكذا من الاعلى

Health of the Nation: Dangerous appetites persist despite state-sponsored push to promote exercise and prevent disease

Despite the market remaining in the doldrums, premiums continued to rise faster than inflation, at 2 per cent above the retail price index, and look set to continue to do so for the rest of the decade, the review says.

After 10 years in which the grew by between 100 and 300 a year, the total fell last year for the first time in a decade, down by 471 as four private hospitals closed and only one opened. At the same time the number of dedicated NHS paybed units rose by three to 77. Between them, these account for the bulk of NHS private patient activity and rival in size the biggest private hospital groups, providing

1,400 beds against Bupa's 1,700, General Healthcare's 1,540 and Nuffield Hospitals' 1,450 beds. The proportion of elective operations paid for privately has the Government's drive since 1991 to cut NHS waiting lists and waiting times, which has increased the number of elective operations performed by the NHS. While privately paid-for operations in both the NHS and private hospitals rose sharply, the increase in ordinary NHS activity has been even greater,

dures in England and Wales in 1992/93, the last year for which full figures are available, against almost 15 per cent in 1986.

The improved efficiency of the NHS means that during the 1990s "the NHS has been challenging one of the key selling points of private medical insurance", the review says. It

suppose that the NHS will se-riously undermine the demand view's editor said. Tust like the for private medical insurance. Further independent hospi-

tal closures are, however, likely as the big insurers develop preferred provider" networks. These limit the hospitals which can be used by those covered by some of their schemes. Deaccounted for just under 13.5 offers a potential threat to pri- growth in private medical in- Healthcare 1996; 0171-284-1268. per cent of all elective proce- vate cover, there is no reason to surance cannot be long de- £130.

housing market, the conditions for recovery have been in placed for some time and look set to continue to be so as disposable income rises, as middle management 'downsizing' runs its course and as the economy generally continues to grow.

Mars craters that could hold the key to meteorite ALH84001

CHARLES ARTHUR Science Editor

A week after Nasa's announcement that life could have existed on Mars, a scientist has searched 42,283 craters on the planet - and oarrowed the source of the fossil-cootaining meteorite down to two of them. Dr Nadine Barlow, who car-

ried out the search electronically on a computer database of Mars craters, says that the results could be used to direct future space missions to the planets to give them the best chance of finding fossil remains. "There are no plans to land spacecraft at these locations at present, but there is the) possibility to focus on these areas," she said yesterday.

Both lie within a few hundred miles of each other in the eastern area of the heavily cratered southern highlands of Mars, where asteroids have repeatedly



The elliptical crater on the south-eastern edge of the bigger one is a possible source of the Mars meteorite

teorites would be thrown into space from the surface by an asteroid's impact

Dr Barlow, a physicist at the University of Florida, began checking possible sources almost immediately after last week's news from scientists at the United States space agency for geologic processes it is a very Dr Barlow hopes to p that meteorite ALH34001, short period, particularly for a her work later this year.

hit the planet during its life. Me-teorites would be thrown into that early life developed 4.5 billion years ago, was thrown from the planet 16 million years ago and then drifted in space before landing in Antarctica about

13,000 years ago. "16 million years may sound like a long time to humans, but planet like Mars which has apparently experienced little geologic activity over the past billion years," she said. She fed a set of search crite-

ria into the computer which held a database of all the craters on Mars - a catalogue she had produced as a postgraduate in the Eighties. Then she told it to search for craters that were comparatively young, but in ancigot terrain - since the rock itself was very old - and in sites where water had ooce been, as the rock cootained carbonates.

A high-speed search cut the 42,283 candidates down to 23, which were in turn reduced to two by further refinement. "I'm fairly confident this is correct," Dr Barlow said yesterday. "I think that the criteria we used were conservative. But I have been working almost around the clock on this."

Dr Barlow hopes to publish

Windfall tax could fund new jobs

Chief Political Correspondent

Labour's windfall tax on the pri-vatised utilities could be used to fund the creation of jobs in the regions to defuse the Tory attack on Labour's "tax bombshell".

Under the plans being prepared by Labour, some of the tax on the excess profits of the water companies could be offered back to them for job creation in the regional water industries.

Senior Labour sources said earmarking the receipts from the tax for jobs and training in the regions could win wider support from the business community and answer Conserva-

tive attacks on the raid on ex- claimed that the privatised comcessive profits by water and electricity companies.

Gordon Brown, the shadow Chancellor, is committed to imposing the tax to pay for Labour's jobs and training programme. The tax would be paid to central government, but John Prescott, Labour's deputy leader. is keen to see some of the mon-ey harnessed to finance the drive for growth in the regions.

The water and electricity companies would be expected to take part in some of the joh creation schemes, which would be directed by regional development agencies.

Earlier this week, Labour

panies pushed through a £20m pay and perks package for their directors while becoming the worst group of persistent polluters in the country. The Labour survey, disclosed in the Independent on Sunday, showed that 12 executives in 10 larger water companies received packages in pay, bonuses, pension cootributions and share options worth more than half a

million pounds each. The companies have been fighting Labour's plans for a windfall tax, but Labour believes some will see the advantage of paying a tax which comes back to them either directly in job

creation schemes or indirectly through benefits to their regions. Mr Prescott is behind ambitious plans to take Labour's draft election manifesto on the road in dozens of meetings around the country. The tour, which will be joined by the party leader.

Tony Blair, will seek to win

support for the broad thrust of

New Labour policy before the

party conference in October. Mr Prescott said: "I bave been preparing a big push for the "Road to the Manifesto" campaign. Every constituency party is going to be involved, and trade unions. It is the biggest consultation exercise that has taken place."



"Alban you connect to Regular Caller Play at £19,99 per mortin, munitins 12, 13 and 14 are first, and you recoive £6.50 worth of calls priory results. Connection to making phones in market to making when he was in waters are de-

FREEPHONE 0500 222 666

FOR YOUR NEAREST STORE AND TO ORDER DIRECT

Go-ahead for all police to carry CS spray

JASON BENNETTO Come Correspondent

Police patrol officers throughout England and Wales are to be allowed to carry CS sprays after a six-month trial of the incapacitant which has been deemed a success.

Michael Howard, the Home nounce the decision next week and officers from all 43 police forces are likely to be have the

held CS canisters were issued to said: "On the whole we are de-3,800 officers in 16 forces at the lighted with the results. The beginning of March. Police chiefs hoped they would help to stem the rise in the number of officers injured. The spray can reduce someone to a coughing, spluttering wreck within sec-

The Home Office agreed to Secretary, is expected to an- be guided by the police chiefs and has approved the use of the device after chief constables and police officers said they were imspray by the New Year. Hand- pressed by it. A police source

lighted with the results. The spray has been far more effective than we could have hoped."

Liberty, the civil rights group, attacked the decision, arguing that there were still severe problems with the training of of-ficers in the use of CS and unanswered questions about side-effects.

The group said that about 20 people were taking action against the police for alleged abuse of the device.

was sprayed oo 366 occasions. It was drawn but not used a further 268 times. The deterrent or "threat" value of the spray was an unexpected bonus, the police

At least two people needed hospital treatment after being sprayed but the police said they have no reports of long-term medical harm. CS spray takes immediate effect and causes streaming eyes and nose, eye-lids spasm, breathing difficulties,

and in some cases blistering of time-consuming incidents.

The Association of Chief Po-

The use of the incapacitant reduced the number of assaults during the first half of the trial by 6.8 per cent and time lost by 66 per cent. An unarmed control group, who were compared to the officers with CS, recorded a drop in attacks of 14 per cent and time lost was down by 43 per cent. The result, while confusing, may suggest the oew the more serious and thus

lice Officers self-defence subcommittee will meet to finalise plans in the next few days. A spokesman said: "Feed-back

they want. If they are happy then so are we."

from officers on the ground has

The Home Secretary gave the police permission to carry out trials of CS spray after reject-

ing experimentation with pepper sprays on the grounds of po-teotial health dangers.

The trials are currently taking place in the Metropolitan Police, and the West Midlands, Merseyside, Greater Manchesbeeo extremely positive."

A Home Office source added: "It's up to police what they are happy th North Yorkshire, West Mercia, and West Yorkshire forces. Once they have been given the official go-shead, officers

from other forces will be trained made spray and it is expected to eventually become standard issue for all front-line officers. However chief constables in some rural forces are yet to be convinced that the sprays are oecessary.
Trials were due to take place

last year but where halted after a Metropolitan Police instructor suffered burns to his eyes and had to have them covered

Arts news: Shortage of room forces star to sell £500,000 worth of modern works - Scots bid to reclaim Edinburgh festival

Mr Caine regrets he no longer has space for his Picasso

DAVID LISTER

The actor Michael Caine is selling works of art worth more than £500,000 because he cannot fied room for them in his Oxfordshire mansion. The collection includes paintings by Pi-casso, Lowry and Salvador Dali. Caine and his wife Shakira

are selling their other home in Hollywood to spend more time Hollywood to spend more time and pencil drawing eotitled in Britain. The art collection has decorated their American base from 1943 could fetch up to for some years.

The collection, which will be auctioned by Sotheby's in London this autumn, is made up of dozens of art deco and art nouveau objects and a pen and ink drawing by Henry Moore in adcouple had shipped the artwork back from the US, it became cicar there was not enough room fot it to fit alongside pieces the couple already own

Caine said yesterday: "I had hoped we might be able to squeeze the two collections towith the things we had when we lived in Los Angeles, but I was concerned that the more frag-ile pieces could get damaged by

being crammed in too tightly."
He bought most of the art work in a brief period of col-lecting in the late 1960s at a time wheo art houveau and art deco was being rediscovered.

up over many years like Michael Caine has done. Part of the appeal of all these works, beyond their intrinsic merit, is the fact that they are fresh to the market after 25 years."

A pen and ink portrait by Picasso of his mistress Dora Maar, signed and dated 16 July, 1945, is estimated to sell for up to £15,000. A charcoal pen, ink £6,000. There are also paintings by Paul Nash, Charles Ginner and Henri Gaudier-Brzeska

A signed water colour by Salvador Dali, Trois Personnages Asris, is estimated at between £4,000 and £6,000. The prints include Marc Chagall's Les Amoureux sous l'Arbre, expected to fetch up to £18,000.

Art nouveau and art deco pieces include works by Galle, Danm, Tiffany, Lalique, Mucha and Erté. The vases by Emile Galle are likely to fetch some of the biggest prices. One in-scribed with a verse from gether, but there simply isu't the Baudelaire could sell for up to room. I shall be sorry to part £20,000, and a large elephant vase could fetch up to £35,000. Phillipe Garner, head of 20th

century decorative arts at Sotheby's, said: "When I started at Sotheby's, I knew Michael Caine was an enthusiastic collector who was acquiring good examples of art oouveau and art deco. I am delighted, a quarter of a century later, to be asked A Sotheby's spokesman said: to sell this delightful collection "It is certainly rare for a famous which might hopefully introduce person to sell a collection built oew collectors to the market."



No room at the mansion: Michael Caine showing off some of the objets to be auctioned at Sotheby's in the autumn. Top right: Henry Moore's charcoal drawing Two Figures, and (below) George de Feure's Figure with a Dog



FANTASTIC PRICES

Australia Canada

Hong Kong Singapore Japan

 60° South Africa

India

Ireland Brazil Taiwan israel FREEPHONE access to our exchange

** Pre-payment ensures no bill worries * Can be used from any tonephone ★ No fuse-quick and easy connection

PLEASE HAVE YOUR CREDIT CARD READY OPERATORS ARE STANDING BY 24HRS A DAY 7 DAYS A WEEK READY TO TAKE YOUR CALL





Suspense at the Grouse House: Melanie Stewart Dance Theatre's 'Cocktail in the Sky' Photograph: Jo Rankine

DAILY POEM

Waiting

By William Emest Henley

square, squat room (a cellar on promotion). Drab to the soul, drab to the very daylight; Plasters astray in unnatural-looking tinware; Scissors and lint and apothecury's jars.

Here, on a bench a skeleton would writhe from. Angry and sore, I wait to be admitted: Wait till my heart is lead upon my stomach. While at their ease two dressers do their chores.

One has a probe - it feels to me like a crowbar.
A small boy sniffs and shudders after bluestone. A poor old tramp explains his poor old ulcers. Life is (I think) a blunder and a shame.

WE Henley (1849-1903) suffered from boyhood from tubercular arthritis and had a foot amputated. In 1873, the year this poem was written, and in an attempt to save the other, he spent a year under the supervision of Lister in the Edinburgh Infirmary. Here, he met Robert Louis Stevenson and the two became great friends. Henley's 'Hospital Sketches' were published in 1875. Years later, a courageous and independent editor of a number of important Scottish literary magazines and reviews, he published the works of Yosts, Henry James, H G Wells, Hardy and

Fringe venue aims to scotch the English

MARIANNE MACDONALD

Scottish performers, piqued by the domination of the Edin-burgh festival by the English, have opened their own dedicated fringe venue, the first of its kind in the event's 50-year

The setting-up of the Fa-mous Grouse House represents the start of a campaign by the Scots to reclaim their rights to the international arts festival, which takes place annually in their capital and attracts more than a million visitors from across the world.

From the beginning, Scottish performers believe, the festival has been effectively hijacked by the English. They dominate both the management side the current director. Brian McMaster, is English as have been all but one of the previous directors - and the major fringe

Nor is the problem confined to drama. On the music side as well, there is increasing anger about the exclusion of Scottish work. "In the entire official Edinburgh International Festival programme there is but one work by a Scot, James MacMillan's opera ines de Cas-tro," Hugh McBain of the Scot-

tish Society of Composers said. His view is echoed by Hugh Loughlan, a prime mover in the creation of Scottish International at the Famous Grouse House, and artistic director of pany set up to encourage Scot-

Gallus Theatre, a touring comtish writing and performance.
"Scottish culture has been so marginalised by the English

that setting up a Scottish venue here is a bit like dedicating a

veoue to performers from Lapland," he said.
"This is our capital city and our festival, yet the Scots have not been represented in the Fringe. This has been the situation for 50 years. If that happened in any other country -such as England - I don't think they would have been too

happy."
Mr Loughlan's experience of reviewing Scottish shows for the Edinburgh Evening News for the past two years of the festi-val has made him sharply aware of the way that Scottish companies have been pushed aside by English ones - ofteo because of financial constraints - and forced to perform in scattered, poor-quality venues.

"I happened to find a programme for the Edinburgh Fes-tival in 1967 or 1968. It had one piece of Scottish theatre in it, by John McGrath," he added. This year's festival has one piece of Scottish theatre in it by John McGrath. That's how far we've moved on."

He and Raymond Ross, his fellow artistic director at Gallus, decided to take action. Thanks to sponsorship from the makers of The Famous Grouse whisky, they have rented a venue from Edinburgh University and scheduled a programme which includes drama children's entertainment, community and youth work.

"The great thing is that it is not just for the Scottish performers," Mr Loughlan added. "It is for the Scottish audi-

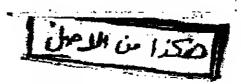








-	•			
Post today No				
TO: GREEN FLAG National B Yorkshire LS99 2GF. Please	reakdown, t send me th	REEPOS e INFORI	T, Leeds,	West
NAME (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms)			1.5	
HOME TEL		•		
ADDRESS			i:.	100
COLINTY	POST CODE		-	F2474





PROTECT CHILDREN: DON'T MAKE THEM BREATHE YOUR SMOKE

Chief Medical Officers' Warning 9 mg Tar 0.7 mg Nicotine

international

Robert Milliken crosses Australia's outback in the luxurious Ghan on a trip that once took two days and now takes 22 hours

Railway revival in a town like Alice

Its silver carriages gleaming in the outback sun, the Ghan stands at Alice Springs station waiting to take me oo the overnight journey through the desert to Adelaide. A hot, dry wind blows down the tracks. The winter" temperature is 28C.

The contrast could not be creater with my last overnight train journey, from Moscow to St Petersburg in the snow. But certain similarities apply. Uniformed attendants wait outside each carriage to direct passengers to their berths (although they do not knock on my door just before bedtime asking me to pay money to use the sheets, as they had on the Russ-

ian train). I am in the Algebuckina car, between the Oodnadatta and the Oasis cars, named after rivers and settlements along the 1,500km-route south. My first-class berth is self-contained: a bed, a hasin and a loo, all of which fold away to leave a comfortable seat. At 2pm, right on schedule, the train slides out of the station, through the red and other walls of the Mac-





fidently into the Never Never. ft was not always thus. Up to 16 years ago, buying a ticket on the Ghan and hoping to reach your destination on time was like taking a ticket in the lottery. The original tracks, built through shifting desert sands,

frequently washed away in flash floods. Termites attacked the sleepers. The train was so slow that its unofficial theme song was "I'll Walk Beside You". The story is still told of a train that was stranded for two weeks by floods and of the engine driver who shot wild goats to feed his passengers.

Then in 1980, Australian National Railways, the govern-ment-owned rail company, decided that the Ghan should not be allowed to die. It built a new line, with concrete sleepers. across almost 1,000km of desert. It replaced the rickety rolling stock with luxurious, air-conditioned cars. A trip that once took anything from two days to two months now takes 22 hours, and the re-born Ghan



railway journeys of Australia, if not the world.

When the first Ghan steamed into Alice Springs on 6 August 1929, hauled by locomotive NM35 with its cow-catcher at the front, and cheered by welcoming locals, the scene was like something from Australia's version of the Wild West, Alice Springs, in Australia's "dead heart", was still as cut off from the rest of the country as it had been in 1872 when it was founded as the site for a telegraph station. For more than 50 years, camels and their Afghan drivers, first imported in the 1860s, had been central Australia's primary transportation link with the outside world.

The Ghan was named in

was part of a grand vision for a 3,000km north-south transcontinental railway linking southern Australia with Darwin, and thence the lucrative markets of Asia. The vision remains just that, and the line still stops

at Alice. Elsewhere, though, railways played a pivotal part in expanding Australia's frontiers. By the 1940s, at the height of rail's fortunes, the country's total track network, if laid end-toend, would have stretched from London to Sydney and back. The trouble was that each of the six states had managed to build six different systems with different gauges

With the arrival of the car and

pletion from Adelaide to Alice government planners decided it was simpler to let railways fade away than to turn them into a truly national system. Shamefully, that almost happened.

Now governments have realised belatedly that it is more efficient to move freight by rail than road. In 1992, the federal government sank millions of dollars towards finally ironing out the colonial mess of a multi-gauge system. It also set up a new corporation with the aim of taking inter-city freight off roads and on to rail.

Last year it became possible for the first time for trains to run the 4,000km between the east and west coast capitals on the same international standard. gauge rail. Passenger train

pace. But the Ghan and another long-distance passenger train, the Indian Pacific, running between Sydney and Perth, are the inheritors of Australia's great railway era.

As darkness fell, and the Ghan ploughed on between the Simpson and Great Victoria deserts, I reflected on that era with a passenger at my table in the dining car, a young engineer from Northern Ireland. He told me that be was taking a month to see Australia by train with a rail pass that allowed him five separate trips.

It was good value. He had travelled from Sydney to Adelaide on the Indian Pacific, to Alice Springs and back on the Ghan, and was planning to

north Queensland, on another restored passenger train, the Queenslander: a total of 13,000km for £600. The trains were giving him a true sense of Anstralia's immense distances and physical contrasts. "This is a nostalgia trip for me," he said. There's nothing like this train

ers sang songs such as Daisy, Daisy, Give Me Your Answer, Do.

left in Britain." We repaired for drinks to the non-smoking lonnge car (there is a separate lounge car for smokers). The carriage, decorated in Aboriginal motifs, filled up with what appeared to be retirees enjoying, as my Irish friend put it, "the fruits of their life's hard work". A woman played the piano and the oth-

straight line, without stopping. Although most of my fellow passengers appeared to be young or middle-aged tourists, the revived Ghan still performs the original train's function and stops, by request, at sidings in the middle of the night to take outback dwellers to town. Urban Australians still remain

for seven hours, almost in a

wedded to cars and aircraft. Be in the frazzled Nineties, there is a yearning for a return to more leisurely, civilised forms of travel. And, if the Ghan's performance is anything to go by. it should add strength to that process. When we pulled into Adelaide station next morning at 11.10, we were half an hour early. Original Ghan hands, eat



Alice in wonderland: The Ghan represents the new face of Australian railways, luxurious, speedy and efficient

Free Shower Gel*

(ONLY ONE CHAIN GIVES YOU FREE LYNX.)







superdrug The real beauty is the price

Bear lovers discover nature of their beast

MARY DEJEVSKY

From high in the French Pyrences comes news this week that a brown mountain bear attacked a flock of sheep near the small settlement of Prat-Bon-repaux and killed six lambs. So what, a phlegmatic French townsman would say, such things happen from time to

time; that's how nature is. Unfortunately, however, the hear was not just any bear. She was Mellba, one of two small hrown bears receotly intro-duced into the region in the hope of saving the endangered Pyrennean bear, and the slaugh-ter of the lambs threatens to revive a controversy that has rumbled beneath the surface

since the project was mooted.

To 1991 four districts in the central French Pyrenees joined forces to promote economic development through tourism. Their thoughts turned to bears, partly in the light of concern that a France-Spain road tunnel theo being discussed could kill off the last of the Pyrennean

to he only eight left. In 1993, the French environment ministry agreed to support a bear-reintroduction project and Brussels agreed to provide 75 per cent of the funding. The task of finding and reintroducing the bears was entrusted to a French organisation called Artus and Slovenian bears were selected as being genetically the closest to the Pyrennean bears.

This spring a team of zoologists went to Slovenia to trap their first bear. Its transfer, from trap to special container to van, was avidly followed by French television viewers, as was the release of the animal -about six years old and now named Ziva - near Melles.

Three weeks later, a second, younger bear - Mellba - was released at a different spot. Both have electronic tags so that their every move can be monitored. A third bear, the first male, is due to join then in the coming weeks.
So far, however, what has

been discovered has not been particularly satisfactory for anyone. Ziva set off for Spain,



Off to Spain: Ziva on her release

remaining mostly in France, has combined elusiveness (which could make attracting the hoped-for wildlife tourists difficult) with a regrettable taste for lambs. She killed her first two weeks ago. Now, it is six in one night.

Certain precautions were taken at the outset to allay fears about the project, the main one being a generous compensation scheme for farmers that works out at about 1,400 francs (£180) per lamb, more than double the market price.

The loss of so many lambs so barrassment for conservationists. The Artus group's local representative. Patrick Patrick Beauchet, said that it was im-

much of her time. Mellba, while to the worst, she might be with-

Local people are said to be putting a hrave face on Mellba's indiscretions, hoping that the bears will eventually bring in the They also feel nostalgic about the bears they lost in the Eight-ies. "The Pyrenees without bears would be like Africa without elephants," the mayor of Melles was quoted as saying. Another resident drew a comparison between bear-sighting possibilities and the likelihood of seeing the Virgin Mary at the nearby shrine of Lourdes: "People go to Lourdes without nec-

essarily seeing the Virgin, she said gnomically. Oo the Spanish side, farmes have reportedly threatened to portant "not to dramatise the situatioo". "If the worst comes bears cause any trouble." use their guns the moment the

Jakarta arrests more activists

RICHARD LLOYD PARRY

Mare than a formight after violent demonstrations in Jakarta, the Indonesian government appears to be intensifying its crackdown on political dissidents with the arrest and detention of 10 more pro-democracy activists.

Those arrested are members of the People's Democratic Party (PRD), a small left-wing group which is blamed by the government for fomenting the riots on 27 July.
Brigadier General Amir

Syarifuddin, for the armed forces confirmed yesterday that Indonesian Democratic Party some of the new detainees (PDI) and violently evicted the some of the new detainees would be charged with the capital crime of subversion.

The PRD leader, Budiman leader. The armed forces The lindonesian authorities are creating an atmosphere of fear and intimidation in which journalists, human rights activists

Sujatmiko, 27, was arrested near Jakarta on Sunday night with nine of his supporters. The authorities have not disclosed their whereabouts and, according to independent lawyers, at least two of the detainees have

been denied legal representation. As many as 200 people remain under arrest since the violence last month, although with independent organisations barred from prisons and hospitals exact numbers are impossible to determine. At least three people were killed and hundreds injured in the riots which began after police raided the headquarters of the

insurgents" intent on overthrowing the 30-year-old gov-

ernment of President Subarto. Human rights organisations and foreign governments, in-cluding the United States, Australia and the European Union, have expressed concern at the methods used in quelling the riots. Amnesty International last week said it "fears that accusations of a revival of communism will be used by the anthorities to justify further arrests of peaceful political activists and to crack down on the legitimate activities of peaceful pro-democracy, human rights and other groups in Indonesia The Indonesian authorities are

quickly blamed "communist and others are afraid to publicise details of these and other

human rights violations". Ms Megawati was questioned last week about her links with the PRD, and has been summoned for another session tomorrow. The leader of the country's biggest unofficial trade union, Muchtar Pakpahan, has been held for a fortnight under the anti-subversion law which enables police to detain suspects for

a year or more without trial. On Monday, Pramoedya Anata Toer, one of Indonesia's most distinguished novelist and a lifelong thorn in the side of successive regimes, was also called in by police. The 70-yearold writer has spent a total of 17 years in Indonesian prisons.

A Orde

A breathing space in Chechnya

حكدًا من الاعلى

The battles may be over - but will the ceasefire last? **Helen Womack** reports

Marketon (1.40 mist.)

for seven have the

menight tree to be a de-

Although med of the tile

Sengers appear mate

weed then

estignation that the second

the must

continues and the same

White factors are

inguite al i

de wee

3 344

HimP

1.44

19:17

10.1

100

gunftitte af fe

pen w

Jen 12

Mellow W.

Another

, gran contracts

ptores:

130,4615

SWEET TO applyte Alesto Tr

Show high

Maria!

Marcala

posterior to

DAME TO THE STATE

Mary De Contraction

s 22 hour •

Moscow - Russian and Chechen commanders were reported to have agreed to a ceasefire yesterday, the first sign that the bloody hattles over Grozny might be coming to a close for now.

After eight days of fighting in the Chechen capital, Russian media said that a ceasefire would come mto effect at noon today local time. But it was not ctear whether whether the ceasefire was intended to be permanent or merely a temporary measure to allow the evacuation of civilians and wounded. If in holds, it will be a signal vic-tory for Alexander Lebed, Pres-ident Boris Yeltsin's security chief and envoy to Chechmya. The news came after Russia's

military commander in Chechnya, General Konstantin Pulikovsky, held talks with the rebel chief of staff, Aslan Maskhadov. The meeting began in the early evening in the village of Novye Atagi, 15 miles south of the regional capital. "The issue of a ceasefire and, possibly, the mechanism for a withdrawal of units and subunits from the confrontation line are expected to be discussed," said the Interfax news agency before the meeting began.

The tentative peace process was set in motion by General Lebed, who on Sunday made a lightning visit to the war zone to meet Mr Maskhadov and returned to Moscow on Monday saying he was optimistic a ceasefire could soon be arranged. However, there was no reaction from the Kremlin yesterday to his criticism of the Russian government's policy in the Caucasus, and the demands he made for sweeping powers to manage the crisis himself.

In all probability, his sharp comments, made at a press conference, will have set off bitter infighting in the corridors of power. In particular, General Lebed will not have endeared himself to the Prime Minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, a rival even before the general accused the commission Mr Chernomyrdin heads of failing dismal-



Russian soldiers carry a dead comrade into a safe area of Grozny during fighting on Sunday with Chechen rebels

departure of President Yeltsin's press spokesman, Sergei Medvedev, a young journalist who, at his own request, was returning to the ORT state television channel where he used to work. Lately the television has seemed almost as restricted as in Soviet times although one anchorwoman, Arina Sharapo-va, has let it be known by small comments that the journalists are disgusted by the war in Chechnya. It was probably not accidental that, the other night, the news was followed by a

week with the express intention of spoiling President Yeltsin's inauguration celebrations, have run rings round the far larger and much better equipped Russian army. Yesterday mortar shells were

crashing over Grozny as the federal forces tried to retake key buildings in the city-centre still held by the separatists. Rebel information chief Movladi Udugov, who has been

so skilled at presenting Chech-nya's case that General Lebed himself praised him while sayabout a tiny ant outwitting a should go and "fish and pick raspberries at their dachas", ly in its handling of Chechnya.

A small change occurred in the Kremlin yesterday with the who infiltrated Grozny last aratists controlled 75 to 80 per said. The army apparently distinct the septiment of the kremlin yesterday with the who infiltrated Grozny last aratists controlled 75 to 80 per cause it fears rehels could

cent of Grozny. Eyewitnesses said rebels seemed to roam the streets at will while most of the Russian soldiers they saw were dead ones. The toll among servicemen is now officially 221 killed and 766 wounded.

Waves of refugees were trying to flee Grozny. The pro-Moscow Chechen government complained that Russian forces were firing on civilians and appealed to the army to open a corridor to let them out of the burning city. "Tens of thousands of people are trapped... with-out food supplies and with a catastrophic lack of medicine," it

escape by melting into the crowd of refugees. The Russian migration ser-

vice said it had received 10 hillion roubles (£1.3m) to cope with the new homeless. The European Commission in Brussels approved a new aid package for Chechnya, bringing the total assistance since the outbreak of war 20 months ago to nearly £29m. More than 30,000 people have died in the fighting and survivors are desperate for food and medical aid.

■ Moscow (AP) — A corretelevision station was killed as he and his family tried to leave the Chechen capital during the

SIGNIFICANT SHORTS

eaders of 300 illegal immigrants fighting to have their position in France regularised said their protest was being stepped up and they would now negotiate only with President Jacques Chirac. They were speaking the day after police raided the Paris church the group has occupied for three months and removed 10 hunger-strikers "for medical checks". All have returned to the church and are continuing their fast. A "rolling hunger-strike" by "star" volunteers for 48 hours at a time has been announced, and the protest is to be extended to more cities. Mary Dejevsky - Paris

The first Filipina to admit publicly that she was a Japanese sex-slave during World War Two said that she and six other "comfort women" would accept \$18,500 (£12,300) each in compensation from a much-criticised Japanese fund. Maria Rosa Henson, 68, said she also expected to receive a letter of apology from the Japanese Prime Minister, Ryutaro Hashimoth, without which she would not accept the money. "The apology is more important to me than the mnney," Mrs Henson said. "Without the apology, I will not take the money. Reuter - Manila

Krista Sager, co-leader of the Greens, shocked Germany's political third force by announcing she would not seek re-election. The German Greens are Europe's the strongest environmentalist party; they have won office at federal state level and moderates hope to ally with the Social Democrats (SPD) to oust Chancellor Helmut Kohl's centre-right coalition in 1998 polls. Ms Sager, who belongs in the wing of the party more inclined to co-operation with the SPD, said she would focus on helping the Greens at regional level in Hamburg, Reuter - Bonn

Bulgaria's President, ministers and diplomats joined mourners at the funeral of the psychic Granny Vanga. Vanga, venerated across the Balkans and beyond for her clairvoyant and healing powers, died on Sunday aged 85 after a four-year battle against cancer. Blind from childhood, she was said to have predicted events ranging from the Second World War in the collapse of Communism and her own death. Reuter - Rupite

Police arrested three former Bangladeshi army officers in connection with the 1975 assassination of the independence leader Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Retired army colonel Farook Rechman, ex-colonel Shahriar Rashid Khan and retired major Mohammad Khairuzzaman are tn face trial for murder and for rebelling against a legally-installed government. Reuter - Dhaka

A French mountaineer, Jean-Christophe Lafaille, set a world record by climbing two Himalayan peaks more than 8,000m high (26,240ft) in less than four days. Lafaille, 31, climbed Gasherbrum 11, 8,035m, then Gasherbrum 1, 8,068m, in the Baltoro region of Pakistan on 28-31 July, Reuter - Grenoble

Bucharest's street children will train stray dogs as helpmates for the handicapped in a programme tackling two of the city's worst social problems. Initially 20 children living rough will be helped for two years to train strays which will then be given to the blind, the deaf and the immobile. Reuter - Bucharest

Thirty monkeys that were killed when they touched a from the Lord Pashupatinath temple, Nepal's holiest. An official said monkeys were gods and that more ceremonies were to be performed for them today. Reuter - Kathmandu

MGM 6-240

Old and infirm left to suffer daily ordeal of bombardment

The people living in Cher-norechive had no knowledge of any ceasefire yesterday. They came under mortar attack mid morning as planes circled overhead, stretching their nerves to the limit.

This district on the south-west edge of Grozny showed the signs of heavy bombardment from the last week of fighting. Smashed tree hranches lay in deserted streets pockmarked with mortar craters. People hung around ontside their

apartment buildings, not venturing far into the courtyard in case another mortar whistled in. It was noon when the latest attack began. The night had been quiet, residents said, al-though they still all slept in their cellars. "We heard that Moscow announced an end to air strikes but the planes bombed again yesterday and today, just look what happened," said one Russian woman pointing at the crater and shrapnel marks gouged in

the side of the building.
"It was a deception. They deceive us every time," she added. This time, only one man was Dzhapkayev's paralysed moth-

Civilians are still awaiting relief from war, reports Carlotta Gall in Grozny

courtyard where a second mortar fell, an old woman was killed outright and a one-year-old baby, hit in the head by shrapnel, had been taken to the

cellar under white sheets as neighbours gathered to dig another grave. The garden of an abandoned psychiatric hospital was being turned into a cemetery for the dozens who had been killed, one woman said.

"We buried five people in a single grave," said Khesir Dzhapkayev, a tetephone engineer. He just escaped injury this time, bolting into the cellar where his family of four children and his mother were sheltering. Some 20 to 30 people were in the bunker, a dark warren of nooks and crannies. People ducked under water pipes, light-ing their way with matches. Mr

slightly wounded, but in the next er lay on the earthen floor on a mattress in a tiny pantry.
"This is the third time we

have had to live down here. It is an absolute nightmare," he said, shaking from the strain. hospital, residents said. The etderly victim lay in the This is not even safe - how do I know it will not he hit with a penetration bomb?" The fear is real Less than a

hlock away a penetration bomb had torn through every floor of an apartment building, hlasting right down into the cellar. The only people left in Cher-norechive are, as in the early days of the war, the old, the in-

firm and many Russians who, unlike the Cbechens, have no family network to help them. Chechen refugees were still pouring out of this district, driving along the tram lines, cross-

ing two dangerously precarious bridges over the Sunzha River, half patched up since they were destroyed in the first battle.

and old women scrambled down a muddy bank as the men frantically pushed cars along the rails. Mortars had landed in the field beside them minutes before. A grandmoth-

er collapsed, her family in tears. The sound of heavy artillery explosions rolled across from the centre of the city every five or 10 minutes - less intensive than in recent days, but still more or tess constant.

A silent procession followed: a young man carrying a wounded, relarded boy and a group bearing a woman on a mattress. who was unconscious, her face marked by shrapnel.

Behind them the sky was black from four fires burning in the western district where Grozny's oil refinery appears completely destroyed.

The Checken fighters meanwhile, who have the run of the

district, said they would demand by Russia before easing up their stranglehold on Russian positions. "The war will not end until their troops leave," said Aslan, 21, as he walked back

ALL THESE DEALS SANYO PH200 CLOSED BACK STEREO

Ramzan Khadzhiyev, who

covered the North Cancasus for

the television station ORT, was

shot in the head twice as he was

driving out of Grozny with his

wife and four-year-old son, In-

dependent NTV television

aired a brief interview with a

passenger in the car who said it

was Russian forces who opened

suggested the rebels were be-

hind the slaving, and Khad-zhiyev, an ethnic Chechen, had

received many threats from the

pro-Moscow bias in his report-

ing and of betraving his people.

He was the 19th journalist to die

in the 20-month-old conflict.

The pro-government ORT

fire on the vehicle.

HALF PRICE CAMCORDER TAPES



TDK FE90 AUDIO TAPE 8-PACK Varta DIXONS 24 EXPOSURE 100-ISO COLOUR FILM 3-PACK Total Separate Selling Price \$3,40,

DIXONS
There's a great deal going on

Bosnia set for imperfect poll ground forces in Bosnia, Lieu-tenant-General Sir Michael Bosnian Serbs had refused to allow Nato inspection teams acplaces of origin, as Dayton

CHRISTOPHER BELLAMY Defence Correspondent

The Bosnian elections in a month's time will fall far short of Western democratic stan-dards, United States officials said yesterday, as the Secretary of State Warren Christopher conferred with Nato civilian

and military leaders in Brussels. But the Nato Secretary-General, Javier Solana, stressed how much had been achieved in the past eight months, since the Nato-led peace implementation force (I-For) moved into

the war-torn country.

A State Department spokesman, Nicholas Burus, said: "These are not going to be pristine conditions for these elections. This is not going to look like a town in Germany or France ... on election day. We're not going to create these conditions in the next 31 days". The admission came as the

Walker, helped defuse a confrontation with the Bosnian Serbs who had refused to allow test the influence of Dr Plavsic, Nato troops to inspect part of who replaced the indicted wara heavy weapons storage site as crimes suspect Radovan Karthey were entitled to do imder the Dayton peace agreement.

Dr Solana and General George Joulwan, Nato's Sup-reme Allied Commander Europe, had visited the Bosnian Serb capital of Pale on Monday afternoon to secure formal I-For might provide for the agreement that the site could be forthcoming elections which inspected. But, as so often happens in Bosnia, it took time for the agreement to filter down to the commanders on the ground, and a Nato source in Sarajevo said it "came as a surprise" to many Serb leaders.

Early yesterday morning General Walker took the new Bosnian Serb President, Biljana Playsic, in a helicopter to the arms site at Han Pijesak, 30commander of the Nato-led .. miles east of Sarajevo, where the

cess on Monday. Nato officials said the move was, in part, to adzie as President. General Walker returned to Sarajevo late yesterday morning, after completing the inspection.

Mr Christopher met Dr Solana and General Joulwan in Brussels, to discuss the support aim to create common institutions for the whole of Bosnia, above the two "entities" - the Muslim-Croat Federation and the Republika Srpska. Although the Dayton peace agreement aims to maintain a unified, multi-ethnic Bosnia, in reality Bosnia is now firmly parti-tioned. The three factions have consistently tried to deter

of refugees from voting in their

allows them to. Mr Burps said Mr Christopher would discuss this with the Presidents of Bosnia, Serbia and Croatia in Geneva today, along with the harassment of the media and the failure of local authorities in Bosnia and the governments of neighbouring states to hand over indicted war

criminals for trial in the Hague. Having completed the handover of large areas under the Dayton agreement and separated the armed forces of the former protagonists, I-For's 50,000 troops are now primarily concerned with creating the best possible conditions for the elections. This includes opening up roads and "creating the environment" in urban areas.

Some 2,000 monitors from the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe and other international organ-Bosnia's hundreds of thousands isations are expected to oversee

Powell rallies the troops against Clinton

RUPERT CORNWELL San Diego

Their image of moderation and compassion burnished by a bravura performance from reluciant megastar Coliu Powell, the Republicaos last night turned their fire on President Bill Clinton, all the while straining to play down the reputation for intolerance that has cost them so dear in recent months.

Halfway through its nominating convention the party has, by commou consent, largeby succeeded in its key objective of banishing memories of the 1992 gathering io Houstoo, whose harsh and divisive tone contributed to the downfall of George Bush. San Diego, by contrast, has been sweetness

and light, epitomised by Gen-eral Powell on Monday evening. Winding up an emotional pageant of ex-presidents and a tearful tribute by Nancy Reagan to her husband, incapacitated by Alzheimer's disease, Gen Powell insisted the Republicans were the pro-growth party, ded-icated to a strong, upright and prosperous America. "But let us never step back from compassion." he declared, "we must be firm, but we must also be fair."

Nor did he flinch from airing his differences with the stridently conservative party platform on abortioo and joh quotas, "You all know that I be-lieve to a woman's right to



affirmative action," he insisted to a mixture of cheers and boos. But, he added to thunderous applause, the party was "big enough to disagree on in-dividual issues," while working



together to propel Boh Dole to the White House.

That was exactly what the conference organisers wanted from the four-star general and former Joint Chiefs chairman, whose precise role at the convention had been in some doubt after his refusal to enter a 1996 presidential race many thought be could win. So too was his enanointed by tonight's tradi-tional roll-call vote of the states, and his veiled criticism of Mr Clinton's leadership.

Also banished thus far - in-

sofar as possible – are the hard-er edges of the Republican Revolution of 1994, symbol-ised by the House Speaker, Newt Gingrich, now the least popular national politiciaa in America. Though he is perma-nent chairman of the convention and was a speaker last night, Mr Gingrich has scarcely been in ev-

Nor has Ralph Reed, director of the Christian Coalitico and leading spokesman for the religious right, which played a key role in the Republican recapture of Congress two years ago. Meanwhile, Pat Buchanan, right-wing scourge of Mr Dole during the primaries and the dark prince of Houston 1992, has fulfilled his appointed role of being seen but not heard.

After his written endorsement of the Dole/Kemp ticket on Monday, Mr Buchaoan emerged on the convention floor to listen to Gen Powell, but saying nothing that would rock the Dole boat as the candidate struggles to erase Mr Clinton's commanding lead in the polls.

Instead, just as the organisers intended, the 12,000-strong media contingent in San Diego has been denied a whiff of real controversy, Instead, the coun-



brisk and seamless production stressing party unity, tailored not for the 2,000 predominantly conservative delegates in the ball but the millions watching proceedings at home. "Better

strategy of the convention. Even the abuse expected to be heaped on President Clinton

leged character defects to issues like health care, crime and the economy, was unlikely to change that judgement. The coveted job of delivering the keynote speech that would cap dull than divisive," the New York Times wrote of the guiding the 38-year-old New York Congresswoman Susan Molinari, a self-described "perky bloode" who symbolises the moderate

abortion and other social issues. Ms Molinari, mother of a

three-month-old daughter, is one of the party's brightest rising stars. She is everything Mr Dole is not - naturally telegenic, constantly smiling, in touch with youth culture, even a confessed "experimenter" with

es and the economy. Earlier on Monday, two expresidents delivered harsh criticism of Mr Clinton. Gerald Ford recalled his self-deprecating line upon being thrown into the presidency in 1974, that he was "a Ford, oot a Lincoln"

abandoning the party in droves she was expected to skirt the because of its harsh line on abortion issue, focusing on taxspoke of his "hearthreak" at how the White House had heen "demeaned" since he left office, and paid glowing tribute to his wife, Barhara, "the most popular woman in the USA" - a pointed reference to Hillary Clinton, decidedly unpopular and at the but described the current in- ceotre of eodless Whitewater-

thusiastic endorsement of Mr try bas been presented with a last night, on topics from his al-suburban woman who has been Republicans still in Reagan thrall as Nancy steals the show

RUPERT CORNWELL

She was dressed in white. She looked as icily coquettish as when she ruled the White House, but this time emanated nothing but dignity and tragedy. She spoke for a bare three minutes or so, yet she managed

evening. Such, more appositely, is the enduring hold of her husband on the collective imagination of the Republican party.

Ronald Reagan, of course, couldn't be there - prevented by Alzheimer's disease from attending even his own 85th birthday party last February. Mrs to steal the sbow from Colin Reagan gave oo details of his Powell. Such was the feat of Nancy Reagan oo Monday of the "terrible pain and loos-

liness" of "this very long goodbye" caused by the illness which destroys memory. But, in the institutional memory of the Republican party he will never die. There will be no goodbye.

First, the 2,000 delegates sat in adoring silence and sayoured a short video that preceded

Reagan years, from the surge in the economy to the terminal decline of Communism. Skilfally it grafted on to that sun-dappled mythical America of the 1980s, the more chastened Republicanism of the mid 1990s. Henry Kissinger and Lee Iacocca were hauled from the party's

vice-présidential nominee. differences with Dole - a taciturn antithesis of Reagan who is driven by doubts not certainty.

No matter that Kemp has his and who couldn't act if his life : depended on it - nor that Reagan's legacy of massive deficits

nomics, and now Bob Dole's ranks. Far more important, Kemp is Reaganism's modern embodiment: supply-sider, taxcutter, and first last and foremost, an incurable optimist.

Then came Nancy, and even the amount points points a pro-were unastignically wiping their eyes. To utter silence, site is called how just four years ago. Rounie stood before you mid

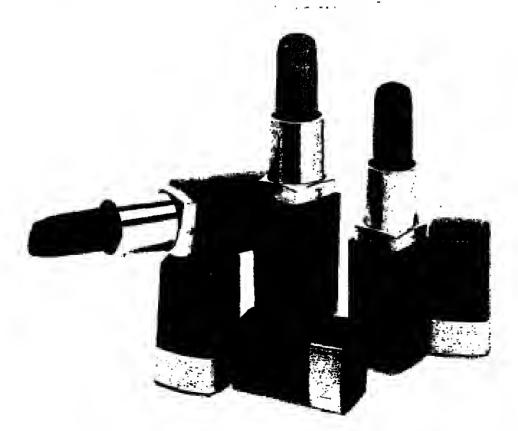
face brimmed with tears: "Sadly his words were too prophetic." But even now, his spirit was very strong, as was "his oever failing belief in the strangth and goodness of America".

Like the foliater actress she

is, Mrs Reagan knows when another's words are better than

his last Republican conven- his 1992 valedictory address in tioo". Her voice broke and ber Houston: "Whatever else history may say about me when I'm gone, I hope it will record that I appealed to your best hopes, not your worst fears, to your confidence, rather than your doubts." He did, And because he made them feel better about themselves, they loved him. Last night proved they still do.

Free at Boots



Buy any two No7 Lasting Lipcolours and get a third free £4.25 EACH £8.50 FOR THREE.



Offer available in most Boots stores from 7th August until 3rd September 1996. Subject to availability.



spoke at what he said might be her own, and she quoted from Reform Party tied to the Perot name

around by Ross Perot".

But this coming Sunday, it is widely assumed, the party's supporters will do the obvious thing and elect Mr Perot as their thing and elect Mr Perot as their presidential candidate. Mr Lamm, a three-term Democrat Governor of Colorado, and oow a university professor, stood for the Reform nomination six weeks ago. As votes were counted this week, he was campaigning from his bome in the state the only way he can afford, via hack-to-back ap-

pearances on radio talk shows. A Lamm spokesman, Eric Anderson, painted a picture of the Reform Party as a young po-litical movement suffering from growing pains and "a certain amount of chaos". It appeals to a huge group of middle-class Americans who are alienated by the two-party system, aides claim. But for all its claims to be an independent third force, the party is tied financially and spiritually to the Perot name. Top functionaries are not only

has run to more than \$6m (£4m) - paid for by Mr Perot's office in Dallas. Mr Lamm has accused him of treating the Reform Party as a "wholly owned subsidiary". It is tough, he has said, running against a billionaire who "makes up the rules ... as he goes along".

The California Reform Party, at least, has achieved some independence in a state where Mr Perot's support is relatively strong. Its 27-year-old chairman, Michael Farris, an oceanographic researcher in Los Angeles, said the local party had raised \$150,000 in donations, enough to finance three regional offices. and takes no money from Dallas. But it also, he said, had a "very, very good working relationship" with the local Perot

San Diego

San Diego the party on the ballot. They are not paying members, and in an earlier survey only about 5 per cent -50,000 people - bothered to reply. Two-thirds indicated a preference for Mr Perot.

Mr Lamm has made a professional play for the Reform nomination. His demand for barriers to new immigration, on the basis that 83 per cent of Americans are opposed to it, plays well with Perotistas who analysts say are increasingly young, blue collar, and discon-tented, and it drew loud cheers in Long Beach. But his name is virtually unknown across the country. Based on his 18.9 per cent share of the vote in 1992. if Mr Perot runs he will have access to up to \$30m in public money, an alarming prospect for Republicans. It is unclear whether Mr Lamm, if he won, Reform Committee, a separate group funded by Mr Perot.
Mr Perot's drive to launch a third party in the US has put the Reform ticket on the November where the local reform to the local re

Patriot game played to win

The faithful at the Republican National Convention wear their patriotism on their sleeves - and on their heads, chests, and legs. See the Uncle Sam hats sprouting trunks and floppy ears, in honour of the Grand Old Party's elephant mascot. Marvel at the sequinned waist-coats in red, white and blue. Gaze in wonder at the Stars and Stripes ties and trousers.

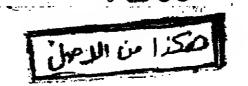
You would think you'd stumbled into a giant fancy dress party. But no one is laughing. They mean it. They really love their country. No one more than Mary Eckert of Columbus, Ohio, who beat off 100 other candidates for the honour of leading the crowd in the Pledge of Allegiance at the convention's opening ceremony on Monday. Draped in the national colours, she wore a billowing fing for a skirt. "I was steeped in patriotism when I was

San Diego Diary

growing up," says Ms Eckert.
"My family tanght me never to put anything on top of the Bible and never to let the flag touch the groood." Are you listening, Michael Portillo?

Ralph Reed, the director of the Christian Coalition, has been making his presence felt. It was his people who cowed Bob Dole into changing the wording of an official convection document to document to decrease towards. advocated tolerance towards the pro-choice Powell camp. It was they who led the witch-hunt against the pro-choice governors of California, Massachusetts and New York, successfully removing them from the roster of convention speakers.

Why is Mr Reed so powerful? Because his militants are the best fund-raisers and election campaigners the Republicans have. So they have to give him what be wants. But Mr Reed is an honourable man, so he went before the televisioo cameras and quite properly declared that the party was united and that Mr Dole's tax cuts would be great and that there was so much electricity on the conventioo floor "you could power the West Coast for a week". So this meant, a reporter asked, that he was endorsing the Dole-Kemp ticket, right? "Oh no," he said, shocked. The Christian Coalition is an issues organisatioo. We are going to be distributing con-partisan election guidelines but, no, we will not endorse Boh Dole."



THE INDEPENDENT summer of spor Wednesday 14 August 1996

NATWEST TROPHY SEMI-FINALS: Lancashire bowler proves a thorn to White Rose as Australian ends Surrey's treble dream

Austin drives out Yorkshire

DEREK PRINGLE reports from Old Trafford Lancashire 293-9 Yorkshire 274-8 Lancashire win by 19 runs

A helicopter may have been waiting to take Michael Bevan to Heathrow, but it was the Australian's whirring bat which held Yorkshire's flight plans to Lord's. Had it prevailed, it would have been the White Rose county's second visit there in a decade, Instead, Lancashire make it their second of the season, a fitting testament to a well-drilled side not afraid to improvise when the moment dictates.

intuicrance

100

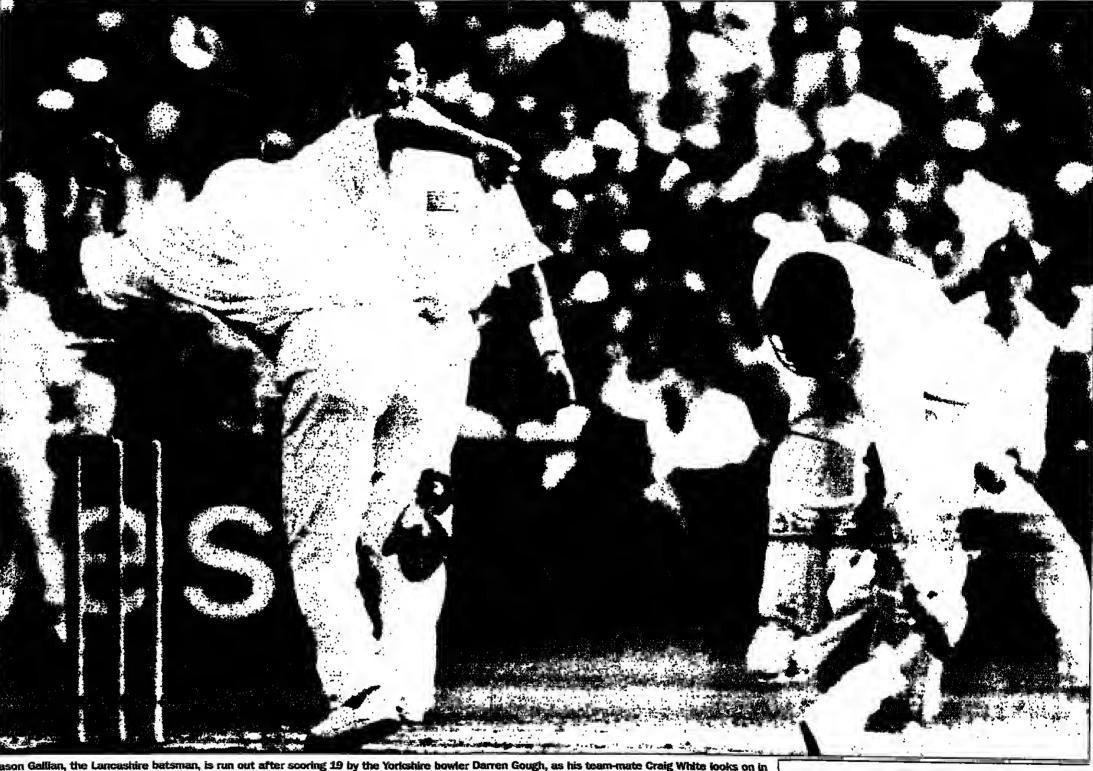
Once again it was the crucial accuracy and verve of that unsung hero Ian Austin, whose three wickets in nine balls - including that of Bevan, earned him the man of the match award from the adjudicator, John Lever. His spell, at a cru-cial stage of the innings, effectively snuffed out Yorkshire's mounting challenge despite a late rally from Darren Gough and Richard Blakey, who added 75 to give renewed but false hope to the wearying legions of Yorkshire fans.

Not that Bevan need feel the dightest pang of remorse at heaving his county for a training camp in Australia. His 85 was a noble offering to a cause that fell under the pressure Lancashire were able to exert with home advantage on a dusty,

turning pitch behind them. It has been a vintage year for Roses one-day encounters. With the earlier Benson and Hedges semi-final here going to the wire, vesterday's win by the sizeable margin of 19 runs no doubt prevented another outhreak of kittens from the home supporters, whose team have not been beaten at Old Trafford in knockout competition since

After winning the toss and scoring 293 in their 60 overs, the home side were always likely to he early favourites on a used pitch which dusted up as the)game progressed. Lancashire, whose much-vaunted length of their hatting line-up is a constant source of comfort to their gung-ho approach to one-day cricket, faltered at the start of

their innings.
Indeed, had the Yorkshire captain, David Byas, been able to catch, the home side would have been in some bother, and he twice reprieved Atherton at second slip before the batsman had made three. The England captain, who eventually made 18, struggled throughout his 60-ball stay, and his scratchy form yesterday was due more to mental fatigue than any searching brilliance on the part of Yorkshire's new hall attack, though Darren Gough bowled



Jason Gallian, the Lancashire batsman, is run out after scoring 19 by the Yorkshire bowler Darren Gough, as his team-mate Craig White looks on in the Natwest Trophy semi-final at Old Trafford yesterday. Lancashire will meet Essex, victors over Surrey, in the final

more than one useful delivery. hurrying both openers with his customary bustle.

Atherton's mental fatigue, highlights the fact that county cricket must be the only sport daft enough to compromise its teading players by having the semi-finals of its longest established knock-out competition the day after a gruelling Test match: a point the Actield report has already made in its review of English cricket. Yet, if remedial action is to be taken in order to maintain standards players in games such as this, then the counties - who get to vote on the report's findings next Tuesday - must dismiss the selfinterest of a crammed fixture list.

Mind you, with their side sliding to 52 for 3, nobody would have minded had the Lancashire batsmen indulged in a period of self-interest, particularly after Neil Fairbrother's departure for a second-ball nought. Having seen Richard Stemp turn several balls quite sharply, including the one that

and levels of intrigue among Test dismissed Atherton, Fairbroth- brimming with a crisp confier was determined to dictate terms from the outset. Unfortunately, his attempted loft over long-on had to be dragged wider as the left-arm spinner spotted his advance and Tony McGrath took the first of three

successful catches in the deep. But if Fairbrother's departure left the majority contingent in an 18,000-strong crowd gasping in disbelief, the muteness did not last long. With an aggressive Graham Lloyd joining an already fluent John Crawley -

dence after his prosperous return to the England side at Headingley - shouts of "Oh Lancy Lancy" soon returned.

Lloyd, in particular, refused to be cowed by the situation. several times employing what can only be described as a reverse cow shot to combai Stemp's forays from over the wicket. However, he, too, benefitted from a dropped catch one of two easy chances Mc-Grath put down - when he was 35; a miss McGrath's own fine

innings of 34 could not quite compensate for. With Crawley not skouching either, the pair pur on 145 in 17 overs before Crawley, trying to launch a long-hop from Bevan into the crowd at square leg, perished to the best of McGrath's catches.

Lloyd's departure two overs later, for 81, would have seen most leams' momentum slow Not Lancashire, though, whose last four wickets added \$1 runs over the last 10 overs. Truly a team effort from a team ready for all one-day occasions.

Alec Stewart reaches his

dicated his apology but Stewart appeared to be unappeased. The Surrey innings by then was drawing to a close. At the end Siewart ran off having hit two sixes and nine fours in his three

Good-bye battery



Welcome to the future: Seiko Kinetic®, the first quartz watch that turns your movement into power. Every move you make is converted into electrical impulses by a tlny built-in powerhouse. Ecological, reliable and efficient: wear it one day to gain energy for at least two weeks. Wear it daily - it will run continually. Made of titanium: light, yet strong and kind to your skin. 20 bar water resistant. One-way rotating bezel and screw lock crown. Seiko Kinetic - it's built to last. Someday all watches will be made this way.

Seiko Kinetic at: http://www.seiko-corp.co.jp

Law gives Essex a final send-off

DAVID LLEWELLYN

eports from The Oval Surrey 275-5; Essex 278-6 Essex win by 4 wickets

And then there were two - tities left for Surrey to win that is. Their dreams of a treble were smashed to smithereens, hammered to all parts of The Oval first by the prolific Australian batsman Stuart Law - what a pity his country reeds him for not without a few alarms on the the tour of Sri Lanka later this month, thus robbing Essex supporters of him for the final on 7 September – then latterly by Ronnie Irani and Robert Rollins, with Graham Gooch supplying a more measured half-century in between.

Essex had gamhled on including Law in their semi-final change to the regulations by the Test and County Cricket Board permitting a substitute to take the field should the tie spill over

Law flew home last night for a pre-tour squad get-together, so if he showed indecent haste at times on his way to it was understandable, after all he did have a plane to catch, and Essex a final to reach. They did so with something to spare but way. Surrey's bowlers had been disappointing for the bulk of the Essex innings, but that could not detract from some superlative batting from Law. Successive hundreds from the Australian in the previous two rounds were topped by a 44-ball 53 yesterday, which provided a perfect in-

jection of pace to complement

vital third-wicket stand of 96,

taking advantage of wayward line and length by the Surrey attack. When Law fell to a fine catch by his fellow countryman Brendon Julian out in the deep he had caused more than an hour of mayhem. It was Julian who sent a few hearts fluttering into Essex mouths when he later struck with two wickers in an over to dismiss the captain, Paul Prichard, and Darren Robinson, Gooch, the rock of the innings having been levered

out Chris Lewis after 115 balls. But Irani, who reached a deserved fifty with the winning hit. and Rollins did not panic. They knew they had plenty of time in which to pass the Surrey total. The light was not great, but nor, in first wicket down.

line-up after a last minute the foundations laid by Gooch's in all honesty was the bowling two and a half hour innings.

Test and County Cricket Board Gooch and Law compiled a hardly taxing.

The early morning conditions had certainly not been ide-al for batting so Surrey were at a disadvantage from the off after losing the toss. But the Essex bowlers produced model performances as well, giving the much-vaunted Surrey strokemakers little room for manoeuvre let alone extravagance.

The captain, Alec Stewart, was the honourable exception. He was there from the start and when the innings finished was still on the hridge for an unbeaten 125. But there was precious little support from the rest of his crew in the Surrey middle order, which saw Nadeem Shahid promoted ahead of England's Graham Thorpe to come

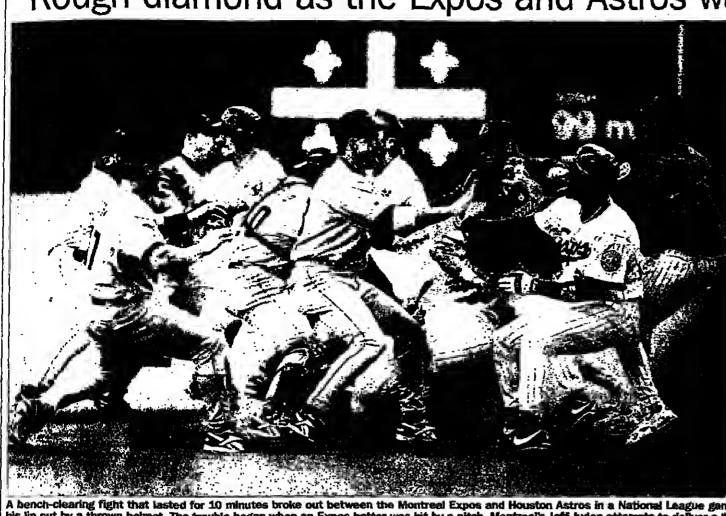
Neither batsman fared well enough for the change to be justified and the only thing that gave the Surrey innings any semblance of adequacy was the sixth-wicket flourish in a little more than six overs between Stewart and Lewis. The England all-rounder looked awesome as he thumped three sixes in the 29 balls he faced as he and his Test team-mate knocked off an un-

ed moments in the Surrey innings, notably when Adam Hollioake stood, possibly in disbelief when Law took a fine catch out in the deep. The batsman eventually departed, albeit reluctantly. Stewart later took exception to a delivery resembling a heamer from Mark flott for which the left-arm paceman was no-balled. Ilott in-

broken 61 between them. There were one or two heat-100 at The Oval yesterday

Play INDEPENDENT FANTASY FOOTBALL See page 10 to register

Rough diamond as the Expos and Astros wade in for the brawl of Montreal





A bench-clearing fight that lasted for 10 minutes broke out between the Montreal Expos and Houston Astros in a National League game on Monday night. Five players were ejected along with Houston's manager, Terry Collins, who had his lip cut by a thrown helmet. The trouble began when an Expos batter was hit by a pitch. Montreal's Jeff Juden attempts to deliver a "homer" to the Astros' John Gangelosi (right) Invasion of the sluggest, page 3; photograph, Reuter

Christie faces his last big challenge Wales promote

Athletics

MIKE ROWBOTTOM

Despite its status as the most lucravive grand prix event on the circuit, with a budget of \$6m (£5.7m) today's Zurich Grand Prix has proved to be a meeting too far for a battered and weary hand of Olympic champions.

Injuries mean that Michael Johnson (200/400metres), Noureddine Morceli (1500m), and Jan Zelezny (javelin) are all missing out on potential for-tunes: Allen Johnson (110m hurdles) and Venuste Niv-ongabo (5,000m) are doubtful.

But the Weltklasse's tradition of excellence, and the footballstyle fervour of the Letzigrund Stadium spectators, will ensure that there will be sufficient per-

Zurich has always been the place where the Briton has made a point - whether it has been in defeating the leading Americans, or - as last year - in gaining revenge over the man who had taken his world 100m title two weeks earlier, Donovan Bailey,

Now Bailey has annexed the 36-year-old Briton's Olympic ti-tle as well. Christie's disqualification from the Olympic final for two false starts means we will never know how close he might have got to the man who went on the lower the world record to 9.84sec. On all the evidence, it would not have been very close.

But, as Christie said after making his final appearance at Crystal Palace on Sunday, "you never know with me." He will have all the motivation in the If there is an athlete to whom line with Bailey and Ato me fired up, nothing will."

tonight means more than Linford Boldon, the Atlanta hronze Christie, it is hard to think of one. medallist who accused him of medallist who accused him of putting his opponents off by refusing to go quietly when he was disqualified. It looks like the last hig challenge of his career.

Jonathan Edwards, who was unable to jump further than 16.93m at Crystal Palace, is seeking a performance of a different order as he prepares to take on the man who deprived him of the Olympic triple jump title, Kenny Harrison. But his body is clearly registering endof-scason weariness.

"I'm pleading with it to let me perform," said Edwards, who faces the American twice in the next six days. "Part of me says rest for the next three months and then start training for the World Championships next year. But I hope this will kick-start the

Victory would keep Edwards in contention for a share of the £160,000-worth of gold bars on offer for success in all the "Golden Four" meetings. The Atlanta silver medallist has already won in Oslo and plans to compete in the remaining two designated meetings - Brussels and Berlin.

He is also in the running for grand prix final in Milan. Every top athlete wants to win in Zurich, the biggest of the one-day meetings," Edwards said. "It would go some way to redressing the balance for me. But

whatever happens Kenny has the one that really matters. "What would probably please more than any financial reward would be to jump 18 me-tres again. It would be frustrating if I didn't do that this at Gateshead on Monday.

Johnson's absence from the 400m with a hamstring injury of-fers Roger Black, silver medal-list behind him in Atlanta, the rare opportunity of a Weltklasse victory. Black, the British recordholder at 44.37sec, would love to find the extra stride to threaten Thomas Schönlebe's nine-yearold European best of 44.33. But he will have his work cut out to

beat Mark Richardson, who

looked more like a man at the

peak of his form in defeating him

over 300m at Crystal Palace. Richardson, with a best of 44.52, failed to earn an individual 400m place after suffer-ing from food poisoning before Britain's Olympic trials. "I am convinced I would have featured in Atlanta," said Richardson, who won a silver in the relay team. "But that's in the past. 1

The race of the night could back problem,

he in the 800m where the Kenyan-born adopted Dane Wilson Kipketer, who missed out on the Games, continues his pursuit of Seb Coe's 15-year-old world record against gold medallist Vebjorn Rodal

The organisers said Michael Johnson would miss the Weltklasse meeting because of the knee injury he incurred in completing his Olympic double on Atlanta's fast but unforgivingly hard track. Morceli will also he absent because he is still struggling with a problem with his ankle which was spiked dur-

ing his Olympic victory.

Zelezny has withdrawn because his throwing arm is hurting after a trial for the Atlanta Braves baseball team last week. There are also questions over Allen Johnson, who is suffering with a wisdom tooth, and Bu-

Bowring, the Wales coach, said. Williams is involved in a

Leigh Davies, who missed the of those days. They have already second Test with a shoulder injury, will pick up his seventh cap ing opening women's game the in the centre. He takes over Dutch-German encounter profrom Gareth Thomas, who duced three open play goals, switches to the left wing in place of Simon Hill.

The other change involves John Davies resuming at tighthead prop for his 30th international in place of Lyndon Mustoe, who is relegated to the bench.

Wales will be meeting the Barcapped fixture.
Wales have refused to take

Scott Quinnell's strike over pay seriously even though he has refused to attend training and has

Williams to the senior side

Rugby Union

Martyn Williams has been rewarded for his impressive Stu-dents' World Cup with promotion to the senior Wales side for their match against the Barbarians at the National Stadium, Cardiff, on 24 August.

The 20-year-old Pontypridd flanker is the only newcomer to a team showing three changes from the side which were overwhelmed 42-3 in the second Test against Australia in June. "Martyn has great potential and creative ability, the open-side flanker," Kevin

complete reshuffle of the back row following Andrew Gibbs' illness and will play at open-side flanker, allowing Steve Williams to revert to No 8 and Hemi Taylor to blind-side duties.

barians for the third time in their history - they were beaten 26-10 in 1915 in an uncapped game and lost 31-24 in 1990 in a

not been selected for the squad. Quinnell's agent, Mike Bur-ton, wants the Welsh Rugby Union to treat the former rugby league star as a special case and increase the amount he is

paid for appearances. But Terry Cobner, the WRU director of rugby, is confident the disagreement can be resolved. Meanwhile, the Barbarians have announced a change in their line-up for Saturday's Dunblane international against Scotland at Murrayfield, Mike Brewer, the New Zealand flanker, has withdrawn from the side and will be replaced by the replacement is the former Scot-

land flanker Dave McIvor. Second Division Moseley have dismissed the former England centre, Barrie Corless, as their playing director. Corless, who had been in charge at The Reddings for only 17 months, has been replaced by the New Zealander Mark Anscombe who had previously coached in

Gloucester coaching director. Richard Hill, has signed the former England Under-21 scrunihalf Simon Johnson from his old club, Bath, Johnson; now 23, recently returned from South Africa where he played in England's three games in the Sud-dents' World Cup.

The New Zealand winger Jeff Wilson and stand-off An-drew Mehrtens have been injured in training and are doubtful for the first of three Tests against South Africa in Durban on Saturday, Mehrtens has suffered a recurrence of a knee injury while Wilson has burt his right ankie. Wales team, Digest, page 4

Larder picks enthusiasm over Offiah

Rugby League DAVE HADFIELD

Great Britain will tour Papua New Guinea, Fiji and New Zealand this autumn without Martin Offiah, who has been left out because of his lack of enthusiasm for the enterprise. Offiah, who signed for both the London Broncos and Bedford Rugby Union club two weeks ago, will now be free to pursue his resumed career in union. rather than joining the 32-man party on tour.

"Although he still has the ability he has not got the en-thusiasm for a six-week tour," the Great Britain coach, Phil Larder, said. "It's very important that everyone selected should be committed and enthusiastic."

Offiah himself said: "I toured in 1988, 1990 and 1992 and menot going this time gives a vounger lad a chance he might not have otherwise got. I also have aspirations elsewhere, and the fact that there is no Australian leg at the end of the tour played a part. Phil understood and seemed happy with my eyplanation. But I explained to him I didn't want to retire internationally. I've got three years with the Broncos and feel I've still got an international future in rughy league.

One player who is both committed and enthusiastic is Offiah's London Broneos teammate. Tulsen Tollett, who has been picked despite spending all but the ket few months of his career in Australia.

"He was born in England, he has English parents and English grandparents," Larder said. He is as English as I am."

Tollett, in his unmistakably Sydney accent, said that playing for the land of his hirth - 23 years ago in Hastings - had been his ambition when he came to England. His form during the Broncos' surge towards a top four

place in Super League justifies his selection and the other surprise choice, Sheffield's Keith Senior, has also carned his place.

The players who can consider themselves unlocky to be left at home are the Bradford centre, Matt Calland, whose form Larder feels has tailed off in the second half of the season, the veteran prop Karl Harrison. and two gifted hookers. Paul Rowley of Halifax and Sheffield's John Lawless. Instead, Larder has called up

Lee Jackson, currently playing for the Newcastle Knights in Australia, Another voluntary exile, the Auckland Warriors' De-nis Betts, is named as vice-captain to a player for whom he was a guiding influence at Wigan, Andy Farrell. Britain's youngest tour captain leads a party that includes eight uncapped players. It also contains two players who are unlikely to play again this season. Neil Harmon, who is out of contract at Leeds, and lestyn Harris, who has been told to stay

away by Warrington. The highlight of the itinerary is a programme of six matches. including three Tests, in New Zealand. There remains the possibility of tagging on a couple of Tests in Australia, in the unlikely event that Super League there wins its appeal before the end of this month.

FORCE the end of this month.

GREAN BRITAIN TOUR SQUAD (Payon New Gatton, Fill and New Zealand, 20 September). Gatton State of New Zealand, 20 September). Gatton State of Sta

Joy and despair for England

Hockey

BILL COLWILL reports from Vught, Netherlands

England's Under-21 squads experienced both triumph and disaster on the opening day of the Four Nations Volvo Masters tournament here yesterday with the women taking the honours in an entertaining 8-4 win against South Africa whilst the men suffered a humiliating 4-0

defeat against Pakistan. A goal down after five minules. England never got to grips with the quick moving and close passing of the Asian champions and did not seriously pose a threat to them. Indeed, only a series of brave saves by Jon Ebsworth in the English goal denied Pakistan further goals

Australia's captain, Mark Tay-

lor, vesterday pulled out of the

touring side due to visit Sri

Lanka later this month because

of a back injury, as the status of the tour and the fitness of lead-

ing spinner Shane Warne still

his role as captain is expected

to be filled by wicketkeeper Ian

Healy, with Steve Waugh the new vice-captain, should the

The Australian Cricket

Board is expected to make a de-

cision on whether to take part

in the two-week, four-nation

tournament on Friday. The

ACB's policy requires a marked

improvement in safety condi-

tions on the island as the 13-year

Australia forfeited its World

Cup opener in Colombo in

February after a suicide bomb-

ing killed 91 people and injured

1,400 in the capital's main fi-

nancial district. Two weeks ago,

another 70 people died in a

commuter train bombing on the

Warne's tour status is subject

outskirts of Colombo.

civil war continues.

Taylor has a back injury, and

remain in doubt

tour go ahead.

Cricket

before a crunching tackle by Keith Reesby eight minutes into the second half conceded a penalty stroke and Pakistan's second goal. Two further goals came in the closing minutes.

Jon Royce, the coach, expressed his satisfaction with his defence even though they conceded four goals but was binerly disappointed with the attack: "It was all buffs and puffs," he said. But then only Mark Pearn will have played before against Pakistan with their unique style of stealing the ball."

in a game of fluctuating for-tunes England's women played some brilliant attacking bockcy mixed with some atrocious defending. They were two goals up inside the opening seven minutes, the first from the captain. Lucy Newcombe, and the

to a three-day fitness test on his injured finger in Brisbane tat-er this week Leg-spinner

Warne required regular corti-

sone injections last season and

in late May had surgery around the knuckle on the fourth fin-

The Victoria state captain has

also just overcome a sore shoul-

der, and Australia may not

want to risk losing their leading

attacking bowler with a five-Test

series against the West Indies

Mike Gatting is set to return

to lead Middlesex in their

County Championship match

against Worcestershire which

starts at Lord's tomorrow, less

than two weeks after the former

ger of his right hand.

looming in November.

Injured Taylor out

of Sri Lanka tour

second brilliantly taken by Pur-dy Miller from a through pass of those days. They have already from Melanie Clewlow. South Africa, however, bounced back, taking advantage of some woeful defending, to score four goals in time minutes. Although Clewlow and Sarah Blanks scored late in the half for a 4-4 interval scoreline, the de-fence had looked so brittle that

victory seemed far from certain. Helen Grant, a second-half substitute, put England ahead one minute after the interval and then deflected home a free hit from Clewiow for her second. England made sure of the win when Clewlow rammed home a penalty corner shot and Newcombe collected her second

The coach, Mary Nevill, said: I was delighted with our attacking play and our penalty

NatWest Trophy Semi-finals

none of which took advantage of the "no offside" rule being played in a tournament for the first time. The Dutch won 2-1 First time. The Dutch won 2-1
ENGLAND bear of Peldicard: I Bearant (reddingure). I Bearant (Camericus), it Todd Havard; D Sylled (East Gardenes). If Colles East
Gardenes). If Reserved (Camericus), it Colles East
Gardenes). If Reserved (Bartering). In Marketingson): SHampstries (Cartering), B Oarmad . (Surbann,
capt), if Pears (Bladenes). D Marketines
react: Hodges (Bournald), Hampstries (Colleges).
ENGLAND (receive). South Artical: It Goodbiff (Loughborough Studenes): C Gilbert Inditioner). If Replot (Adadge), if Keet (BatanLeccens), J Shoese (Chor); if Bowden (BatanLeccens), J Shoese (Chor); if Bowden (BatanLeccens), J Shoese (Chor); if Colleges (BatanLeccens), J Reserved the Colleges (BatanLeccens), J Reserved the Highoven, Cast); St

In contrast to the high scor-

had a talking to.

O Gough c Chapple b Martin
P J Hardey not out
C E W Silverwood not out
Extras (b4, w4, nb2)
Total (for 8, 60 overs)

Feth 1-28, 2-34, 3-110, 4-190, 5-197, 6-197, 7-272, 8-274, Lancashire v Yorkshire GLD TRAFFORD: Larcaptains by Yorkanine by 18 name.

Lancaptains won uses

LANCASHREE JE R Salary D Stamp 12: JE R Gallen nun put. 19 M. A Atherton c Blaivey D Stamp 12: JP Crasking vo McGardh b Benan 552: N H Parturonier c McGrath b Stamp ... 0

G D Lloyd c Shewrood b Benan ... 81: 11 M Waterson c Gough b Hartley ... 35: TW K Hegg c McGrath b Guigh ... 95: ID Austin c Byes b Sough ... 10

G Chapte not out 95: JP J March ... 97: 11 Tarts b Gough ... 95: John ... 97: 12 Treat R2, 2015; W10, noth ... 203

Falls 1.26, 2.52, 3.42, 4.197, 5-209, 6-262, 7-259, 8-253, 6-233, Did not bet by J March. Umplees: N T Pleas and R Julian. SERTEV V ESSEX

Did not bet: P J Mentr. TORONSHERE
M O Moson by 9 Years
M P Vaughan c Garlen b Might
O Byes c Garlen b Might on
M B Beean c Charpele b Austur
A McGrant b Austur

Batting

England captain underwent knee surgery. Hampshire opener Jason Laney has been ruled out for the next three weeks after breaking a bone in his hand. Laney, 23, suffered the injury while bowl-

ing in the nets. The Sussex all-rounder Robin Martin-Jenkins is suffering from glandular fever and will miss the rest of the season. The 20-year-old, son of journalist and broadcaster Christopher, fell ill last month.

CRICKET SCOREBOARD

Did not bet: R D Stemp.

Bonding: Martin 12-2-53-3; Austin 12-1-47-3; Yess 12-0-55-1; Dispole 12-0-59-0; Waterson 12-1-56-1

SUPRIEY
M A Butcher run out
"IA I Stewart dox out
N Sharkd or Profilere to Wolfgerts
G P Thompe e Robinson o Not... Felk 1-81. 2-151, 3-163, 4-193, 5-214, Did not bet: J E Benjamin, 8 P Aulen, M P Bel-nat, R W Pearson.

Bowleg füt 11-2-59-1: Witams 12-0-43-1: kan 8-2-33-0; Law 9-1-37-0; Such 12-0-50-0; Graven 8-0-47-2

Extras (b1, los, w23, rb15)... Total (for 6, 56.4 overs).

Other results Other resembs

Other resembs

Other parties

Other parties

Outs and 154;

Duther 303 11 Longley 1/41. Durhem bt Middlesen 1/3 and 154;

Duther 303 11 Longley 1/41. Durhem bt Middlesen by an inwingle and 26 new. Followshmer

Kent 231; Gioupostr 63 for 2. Whistorick Esser

294 for 7 dec R M Floregen 139, 16 Witton

54) and 28 for 1 Volente 255 for 6 dec (8 Partier 100no). Worksop Collegie, Notongparasis

406 for 7 dec R Johnson 78, 6 F Artier 58, M

P Downin 53, N A Ge 511; Hampsiter 58, G 313 R

5 M Monte 100, P R Whitmen 86, G 313 R

5 M Hons 100, P R Whitmen 86, G 3W Whole

55; J E Hindson 5-99).

Mayor Countries of HAMPIONESHEP (First day

of two) Neitherfield: Cumberland 200 for 7 (0

] Pearson 7500 and 50 for 0; Sufficie 165 (0 W

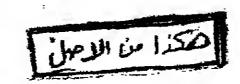
Randal 54).

Starting today 11.0 unless stated
TERLEY'S CHRILLENGE SERIES (First day of Christian Leicenburghire of Polostan.

FIRST-CLASS AVERAGES

Yorkshire 0891 525 387

Martin charge Stylinks often Gare. Little Little Landon Str \$12.



What do you do with a drunken sailor?

BEING THERE

Montreal

manager, Terry Collins, whole

promote

lams to

anior side

form, whole the Work

CERNE PAREST NA Quanchin.

Characters for the

of such.

Agree It. vi

At and

Mary and

Figure 1 कद्भारीक गामाः

"Banky alos to

Handaya Com

Residence 1

Zentamber \

Mary beattern

white the day

A state of

Richard

amen I sold to 1

half Same to

Abda Batter

avently and

Attaches

A comments

Jeff W

13 × 5

alten Maria

dentification in

Bresser of the Charles

Mary Burney

Wales to the present

THE DATE OF

International

1000 Line 10891 881 48

All Counties

News and Res

0891 525 0

C3¹¹ 12.

ericht in der graff

Definition (and

Charles was freely and Charles of Charles of

Stangelier and

Keni

1 mit 5.

Null's

Lancashiri

Majdien

North are

Inch he was

Transmitted.

Vadira . land , de

. Hetaisi

dizent.

Backer, bereit

wide all to

fond there is a last

then ju

there's lear

Kovin

and the

i india

200 \$17

CI INT

with and men

W Colonic

At Cowes Week, it seems there's really no choice but to join them. **Andy Martin** drinks it all in

had been in Cowes for barely five min-utes, and I hadn't even set sail yet, and I was already sick as a dog. And yet I had cast off from Southampton as swashbucklingly as Errol Flynn. I would have given long odds against a shipboard romance flourishing between the mainland and the Isle of Wight. But the British Rail hydrofoil the Red Jet was advertised as a "high-speed service", and it all happened on fast forward. Her name was Lucy.

Even as I strode down the gangplank, I

couldn't help noticing she held a copy of Mi-lan Kundera's The Unbearable Lightness of Being in one hand. "I'm reading it for the second time round," she confided, as I look the seat next to her on the starboard side. "Have you read his essay on The Art of the Novel?" I countered, "or the early Laughable Loves?"

Lucy was a sailor. She had been drafted in at a late stage after her ship had lost a man overboard (they were sponsored by Bombay Sapphire gin and had been tak-ing their responsibilities a little too seriously). She even taught sailing. I revealed that my knowledge of life on the ocean wave was limited to surfing and the occasional Sea Link ferry. So she kindly offered me Lesson 1: "Never hang on to the main-sheet. You'll capsize." I never made it to

Lesson 2. As we disembarked at West Cowes, she was shanghaied by a smooth-tanned, weather-beaten kind of cove called Justin. He was Justin and I was just out. Had a passing octopus wrapped a tentacle about Justin's neck at that precise moment, I doubt it off. But the trouble with sea monsters is they're never there when you need them. cuses bit, intent as I was on zipping at the Come to think of it, Justin was a hit of an time. octopus himself, the way he was wrapping himself around Lucy. I was sunk, going down I've come across, what with steering bewith all hands on board. But it turned out

to be my lucky day after all.

Over at the Yacht Haven, I hove to at the Gents. As I dumped my gear beside one of the washstands, I couldn't help noticing in the mirror a thin, weedy stubbly customer standing at the long collective urinal hut looking over his shoulder at me. He kept on looking. I messed around at the sink for a while. He was still there. It seemed like a long time to be standing about with your fly open. But, hey, free country, I said to myself, working up the courage to wander over to the trough. All the same, just to be on the safe side, I parked myself up the

"Hallo," he said. It wasn't actually "Hello, sailor", but it was close.

tal line, but this was my best chance. Only left in so much of a hurry I forgot the ex-



whether I would have stirred myself to hack Mad Cowes: With boats sailing every which way, chaos rules - 'Out of every 10 competitors, only five maximum have a clue what they're supposed to be doing'

Cowes was as perilous a harbour as ever tween the Scylla of getting sand kicked in your eye and the Charybdis of an unso-licited close encounter. Thus it was that

You would think these ceaseless revellers had all just returned from a round-the-world trip on a teetotal yacht

I made full steam ahead to the Skandia Life hospitality marquee for a lifesaver. Hope came on the end of a cocktail stick when someone told me that the party to "What's your name?"

The always wanted to write, "I made my excuses and left". I we imagined other circuits and left". I we imagined other circuits and left ". excuses and lent . 1 ve imagined other en-or attending a total man many cumstances that would justify that immor-balls could there be in Cowes on any one

in. He promised me a five-man-high pyramid on the dance floor by the end of the night, but the most I saw was a girl horsing around on someone's shoulders, and my hopes were similarly deflated. Justin wasn't there, but neither was Lucy. Or maybe they both

were, carousing unremarked among the hundreds of sailors kitted out in floppy green and yellow Viking suits. The event was billed as the "unrefined crew hall". and the only refined thing about it was the alcohol (Mount Gay gin was the co-spon-

One T-shirt (one of the many, outnumbering blazers by about a thousand to one) summarised the mood of the evening: "Revel Without A Pause". You'd think, from the sight of the immense pitchers of beer, these ceaseless revellers had all just returned from a

round-the-world trip on a teetotal yacht. Towards the end of the evening, by the time bodies began to be manhandled out and flung down on the lawn - and the ones that were left upright were staggering and slobbering - another T-shirt headline began to seem more appropriate: "Mad Cowes Disease".

The next morning down at the Yacht

Paul Bertie of Occanworld kindly let me Haven, I heard it said that the course at then after wobbling around at sea, you nat-Cowes was not clearly marked out. Nonsense. No one I met had any difficulty nav-igating their way from ball to bar to beer tent. Somewhat overshadowed by her neighhours - Glenfiddich, Teachers, Young's - the woman at the Nicorette tent said what sailors really needed was a patch

over their arm to stop them drinking. I suspect a breathalyser would have put paid to the hopes of many. Mystified as to why it is sailors should drink so much. I did some research at the beer tent. Behind the har, Wendy reckoned that

the beer tent at the Yacht Haven saw more business in a week than the whole of Cowes during the rest of the year. Her theory was that the salt dries you out so you have to replenish your liquid stores regularly. Jennie, who shrewdly pointed out these old salts didn't replenish their Tropicana or their Britvie stores too frequently, maintained that the sailing was just an excuse for the drinking. Wendy thought maybe it was something to do with keeping away the scurvy or the beriberi. And maybe seasickness, too. It seemed logical: the sea is rocking and rolling all round you so you have all this liquid sloshing about inside you to maintain the equilibrium. And

urally would want to drink yourself into a stupor once you hit land so you could wobble up the street, too.

I finally put to sea on the press boat, and soon I was all at sea. I wasn't the only one, though. With hundreds of boats sailing every

Jennie said the sailing was just an excuse for the drinking. Wendy thought it was something to do with keeping away the scurvy

which way, it looked like chaos, "It is chaos," one Captain Haddock-type admitted, "Out of every 10 competitors, only five maximum have a clue what they're supposed to be doing." After a few collisions and bundles of near-misses in the high winds, the organisers wisely removed the firework burge from in front of the Royal Yacht Squadron and lowed it off to East Cowes, out of harm's way, until the official start time. The

harge was big and stationary hut not so hig and stationary that one of the more recreational of the sailors couldn't smash into it and set a premature spark to the blue touch paper.

There's no question that sailing can be pretty rugged, I wondered out loud why the Army and the RAF had yachts down at Cowes and why all these guys weren't in the Navy instead, thereby saving the taxpayer a packet. But one suave and muscular hombre assured

me that it was all good training, "You can go out in tanks, but you're just pretending. But spend three consecutive days in a Force 9 swell on a J24 in the Channel – as we did a few months ago - and it's really tough."

Thus spoke Justin. For it was he. I had

finally run into Lucy in the Haven. She had spent the night bunked in Justin's boat. It was all part of the training - good for teamwork. I began to understand why Dr Johnson said that any man who has not been a soldier or put to sea feels a sense of regret. And I think I now know the answer to the mystery of why sailors go about under this moral imperative to get tanked up. They drink to forget the unbearable light-

Invasion of the slugfest makes baseball tedious

Never did I think that a recent and low a game, and the homer is heavunahashed convert to the game of baseball would utter the words. But here goes. I am bored with home runs. And not merely bored. Pounded by them. Knocked dizzy and brainless by them, to the point of dreaming of an old-fashioned pitchers' duel, one of those virtually extinct 1-0 or 2-1 games where a lucky single can make the difference between triumph and despair. This year a plague of homers has descended on the land, baseball scores read like football games, and in my humble opinion America's national pastime

is the poorer for it. Logically, it should not be so. After all, the home run is one of the great thrills of all sport – a prodigy of arm and eye that enables a hitter anned with a bat less than three inches wide at its broadest point and just 0.4sec at his disposal to pick up a cricket-sized ball travelling at him at 80 or 90mph and rocket it back in the opposite direction, into the stands 350ft away. The spectacle is

breathtaking.

If you can't get to the ballpark, radio, not television, is the way to fol-

en for the commentators, or play-byplay announcers as they call them here. The words, wafting half-heard from a radio somewhere on a warm July evening, are among America's indelible summer sounds: "A long drive... deep to centrefield... back, back, real deep... wave it goodbye, this one is g-o-o-one." Surely you can't get enough of it, can you? This year you

The precise reasons for the power explosion are a matter of argument among baseball sages, and more of that in a moment. But the figures speak for themselves. The eternal struggle between batter and pitcher has fluctuated over the years. But the hitting surge of the mid-1990s is without precedent. Two-thirds of the way through the regular season, baseball is on a pace to produce over 5,100 homers, way above the previous record of 4,458 in 1987. True, the nitpickers will point out, only 26 teams were in the major leagues then, compared with 28 today. But in 1993, the only full post-expansion season played, the 28 teams managed only 4,030 homers. This year's singgers are

SPORT IN ANOTHER COUNTRY

Rupert Cornwell, in Washington, yeams for the pitching duels of summers past

25 per cent more prolific, and some of the sport's most sacred records

With his 61 homers in 1961, Roger Maris expunged the single season record of his New York Yankee forerunner Babe Ruth from the record book. Now Maris is in danger of becoming history. Half a dozen players are threatening his mark, among them Mark McGwire of the Oakland A's, Sammy Sosa of the Chicago Cubs, Mo Vaughan of the Boston Red Sox and Albert Belle of the

Cleveland Indians, Never have more than two players hit 50 homers in a season. This year five or six could. Some 20 could reach the 40-homer mark compared with a previous record of eight, while three clubs -Baltimore, Oakland and Seattle - are on track to beat the Yankees' singleseason record of 240 in 1961, the year

of Roger Maris and Mickey Mantle. The explanations have multiplied with the homers themselves. Hitters, it is said, are more powerful and better trained than ever - which is true. Others blame the friendlier dimensions of the new downtown ballparks in cities like Baltimore, Cleveland and Denver. Umpires are criticised for shrinking the strike zone to lit-tle larger than a G-string, necessitating more of those fast balls down the middle upon which home run hitters feast. Then there is is the old chestnut of the "juiced" ball, allegedly produced with its inner lay-

ers wrapped tighter to make it carry farther. That theory at least may be The most plausible reason is poor pitching, traceable to the 1993 ex-

ity pitching must be spread around 28 teams instead of 26, a thinning of talent which inevitably shows up over a six month season of 162 games. But, one may ask, why does not the same argument apply to the

Either way, the game is changing. The \$2bn (£1,29bn) a year baseball industry is happy enough with the trend: after all, it argues, the fans love a slugfest, and baseball needs all the love it can get after the unforgotten and still unforgiven lunacy of the players' strike of 1994/95. In fact, neither attendances nor television ratings have noticeably picked up since the onset of the home run glut.

The game meanwhile - especially in the slugger's paradise of the American League - is losing some of its subtler skills of base-running. No one steals home plate anymore: why take risks to manufacture one run when a single hlast into the stands can bring you four? Which leads me to a final piece of advice in this era of homers by the handful. If you're in America this summer and contemplating a visit to a

SPORTING VERNACULAR

No 9 FRIENDLY

Three images from the "friendly" encounter between Newcastle and Manchester United at Wembley: Four Newcastle supporters grab a Manchester fan and swing him out over the Tube tracks.

 A Manchester supporter (male) and Newcastle fan (female) take turns to beliow "Red army" and "Toon army" at each other in rhythmic antiphony, noses inches apart and faces distorted with passion. A Newcastle fan sidles up be-

hind red-shirted supporters and spits expertly at their heads. He has done this so much that he is running out of saliva, which means no one notices and he does not get the fight he is clearly anxious to provoke. The first two, almost incredibly,

were jokey expressions of enmity which quickly resolved into mutu-al backslapping and laughter - the third was a nasty utterance of real malevolence. But, given the intensity of the rivalry expressed, who could confidently guarantee that the former might not tip over into the latter at any moment? Perhaps that is why the smiles people wear in the presence of these roaring exchanges

have a slightly strained look, a reminder that when primates grin it usually means they're frightened. On the pitch you see similar um-

higuities: Cantona wrenches an opponent to the ground, arousing the car-splitting indignation of the Newcastle crowd. What's "friendly" about that, you wonder, before Cantona, after looking suitably contrite for the referee, walks over to clasp his victim's shoulders, a gesture much closer to self-exculpation than it is to confession. "Look, we're friends,"

it says, "I can't have fouled him." In sporting terms, of course, a friendly" is simply an encounter where the result doesn't really count ("point-less" might be a pun-ning alternative). Watching a "friendly", with its theatre of attack and retaliation, it's possible to won-der whether the unique sort of "unfriendliness" fans display to each other offers one answer - a demonstration of how sport provides a place where aggression, rage and the will to defeat your opponent utterly can play safely in the open. If you're lucky, at least.

Thomas Sutcliffe

Wenger for Arsenal then Weah

Football

CLIVE WHITE AND

Arsene Wenger, the Frenchman whom the Football Association has sought to woo as its new technical director, is expected to be appointed manager of Arsenal today in succession to Bruce Rioch, who was dismissed on Monday. With a name like his some would say

it was a formality.

An added bonus for Arsenal is that the former Monaco coach could well succeed where Rioch failed in luring George Weah, the World Footballer of the Year, to Highbury. The Liberian striker, who plays for Milan, is a protege of Wenger. Wenger moved into pole po-sition for the job yesterday af-

ter doubts surfaced about the readiness of Johan Cruyff to return to the game following his dismissal by Barcelona this summer. Like another candidate, the former England coach Terry Venables, Cruyff will be busy with litigation next month, suing the Spanish club for wrongful dismissal. But Arsenal still seem heat on going

Wenger, a close associate of Glenn Hoddle, the England coach, following their time together in the Principality, has resisted the Football Association's overtures because of his unwillinguess to take up a desk job. He enjoys working with players and was a major influence in Hoddle's decision to move into coaching

when his career ended. Wenger is now in Japan club with wbom Gary Lineker ended his career, but has apparently indicated to Arsenal that he would be willing to move to London when his contract expires in mid-September.

Wenger and Weah have been close since the Frenchman picked the big African out of obscurity and took him to Monaco where he lived in Wenger's house. He eventually moved to Italy where is valued in the £10m bracket.

Riocb had been working on signing Weah, who is also a tar-get of Mancbester United. Weah told the Scot through a third party that he would like to come to England but not before next year when he plans to quit Milan. However, Wenger's arrival could accelerate those plans. The signing of Glanluca Vialli and Fabrizio Ravanelli has proved anything is possible and

Weah is, after all, 29. Weah is also friendly with the Arsenal striker, Ian Wright, who in yesterday's tabloids had described Rioch's hopes of signing a player such as Weah as "impossible".

Wenger's first signing for Ar-senal, however, is likely to be a shade less amhitious. There were rumours yesterday that a little-known French midfielder called Remy Garde was about to be signed on a free transfer from Strasbourg even before Wenger has put pen to paper

Arsenal fans will not be the only ones disappointed that Cruyff no longer seems a front runner. City experts estimated that the Dutchman's signing would have added £28m to the



Milan's George Weah (left) and Marco Simone try to force the ball past Bayern Munich's goalkeeper, Sven Schener, and defenders Strunz and Babbel in a pre-season tournament staged in Berlin's Olympic Stadium. The defenders saved the goal, and Munich won the tournament

Players warned strike will close clubs

Exeter City, one of the small clubs struggling for financial survival, bave claimed that a players' strike in the Nationwide League called by the Professional Footballers' Association could mean the end of the road for a number of their kind.

Stuart Dawe, Exeter's football director, said yesterday: "It's all very well talking about the PFA getting more money to redistribute, but what if the poorer clubs are forced to the wall by a strike?

"If we folded, there would be no club to pay the players' wages. We had a big scare last year and nearly went out of busi-

need just now, when it looks as don paying the players' union a wages - not the PFA." Leagne though we are beginning to get 10 per cent levy from television officials are confident, meanthough we are beginning to get back on our feet.

There will always be greedy people, hut what about the ones who aren't? The ones who are struggling to keep football alive in the outposts?

"If the clubs did have to fold, where would the PFA find clubs to employ their Dawe's claim came as play-

ers throughout the Football League's three divisions were heing warned against strike action. The PFA bas said it will ballot members on whether to strike in response to the Football League's decision to aban-

Education and Employment,

but the club are confident he will

screening rights.

While the players are ex-pected to back strike action, League assistant secretary Andy Williamson described any such vote as "an act of blind faith".

"If the PFA are allowed to hallot their members it would be naïve of us to think that they will do anything other than support the union's call for strike action as an act of faith," Williamson said.

But it would be an act of blind faith because the Football League clubs' financial situation is a precarious one and they are the people who pay the players'

while, that they will secure a High Court injunction to

prevent the players' ballot. "You can only strike if it affects the terms of employment of individuals and, clearly, this dispute does not," Williamson said. "The dispute is about funding the union, which is a

"Our contribution from the TV money over the years has been for three specific purposes: benevolent grants for footballers who bave fallen on hard times; towards education grants for the life after football; and for

players bave to give up football early due to injury.

"The PFA is not allowed to use the cash for anything else but, as at June 1995, they had accumulated £8.2m. What we've said to them is, 'If you can show as that you need more money for those specified purposes, then our contribution would increase.' But there is no indication that they need

League and PFA officials are due to meet on 23 August, hut Williamson is not optimistic. The PFA seem intent on raising the temperature of this argument. We're likely to get

Bankies plotting Rangers' downfall

Clydehank's full-time foot-ballers - both of them - were yesterday plotting one of the Scottish Coca-Cola Cup's biggest upsets from a portable dressing-room outside a Glasgow rugby club.

The cash-strapped First Di-

vision club that reared the late Davie Cooper are now homeless and struggling for survival in the post-Bosman era. Tonight they face the millionaires of Ranger at Firhill, seeking only their second competitive victory over

the Ibrox giants.

April 12 1986 was the red letter day for the Bankies as they recorded a 2-1 Premier League win over Rangers at their then home, New Kilbowic Park.

Clydebank are waiting to hear the result of a planning inquiry into the sale of their stadium to a supermarket, with the club sharing with Dumbarton for the new season and training at West of Scotland Rugby Club. A playing staff that once had around 16 full-timers has been cut to just two.

"We had to go back part-time and would have been doing that even if we'd received the money for the stadium," said Clydebank secretary, Ian Steedman. "It is getting barder and harder to operate clubs below the top flight."

Clydebank's chances of cash-

ing in on tonight's tie bave even been cut with capacity at Partick Thistle's Firhill ground reduced from 21,000 to 14,000.

For the coach, Brian Wright, who has also been forced to go part-time, the only solace on offer is that Rangers will be without some £20m worth of talent as a full team of players are un-available to Walter Smith for various reasons - fitness, suspension and international duty.

The absentees include Paul Gascoigne, Brian Laudrup, Joachim Bjorklund, Alex Cleland, Alan McLaren, David Robertson, Erik Bo Andersen, Craig Moore, Gordon Durie, Ian

Ferguson and Stephen Wright. Elsewhere, Celtic make the short trip to Clyde's Broadwood home in Cumbernauld for their second round tie minus two key defenders. Alan Stubbs is banned after his red card in Sats 2-2 draw at Aberdeen. Likewise Tosh McKinlay, who was punished after the match

had ended. Hearts will play in front of a timee-sided Tynecastle when cup experts Stenhousemuir come to Edinhurgh. The Scottish Cup runners-up could include recent

coaching Grampus Eight, the value of the cluh's shares. ness. This is the last thing we Leeds make official move for Sinclair

Leeds United, who have been linked with the Queen's Park Rangers winger Trevor Sinclair for most of this year, yesterday made an official bid for the England Under-21 player.

Bill Fotherby, the Leeds chairman, said an offer, believed to be under £5m, had been made. and the Yorkshire club were waiting for a response. "Our offer has gone in and, when QPR's chief executive returns from holiday, he will presumably consider it," be said.

Howard Wilkinson has just spent a club record £4.5m on

Robbie Regan will make his first

defence of the World Boxing

Organisation bantamweight

title in Cardiff on 19 October

have had to contend with weeks

of uncertainty as the voluntary

17 wins from 22 starts with two defeats, reckons a return to his

defence was delayed because of

against Drew Docherty. Both Regan and Docherty

objections to the venue. Regan, 28, with a record of

facing an exploratory knee operation, he is short of strikers.

United finance director, Rohin Launders, to move to Elland Road, Launders will become chief executive of Caspian's at Port Vale on Saturday. subsidiary, Leeds United Hold-

The Newcastle United deagreed terms with Blackburn

ance in his favour. "It took me a long time to get a world title.

I also know what it's like not to

be a world champion. I know

The British beavyweight

champion Scott Welch has with-

drawn from his nomination to

fight European champion Zelijko Mayrovic, of Croatia

Clifton Mitchell is now installed

him free for a WBO title at-

tempt against Henry Akin-

Welch's withdrawal leaves

as the official challenger.

which I prefer."

on an amount Sasa Curcic is on his way out Leeds' new owners, Caspian, at Bolton and this could spark have pulled off a major coup by persuading the Manchester atture. The Scribian midfield player has failed to fit into the dub's pre-season plans and will be absent when Bolton kick-off

Liverpool are facing a race against time to have the Czech international Patrik Berger fender Rohbie Elliott has cleared for their Premiership match at Middlesbrough on Rovers, but his transfer fee is Saturday. The midfielder, a

Lee Sharpe from Manchester likely to be settled by a tribunal £3.2m signing from the German United but, with Tony Yeboah after the clubs could not agree champions. Borussia Dortmund, is waiting for a work permit from the Department of

> Rob Jones, the Liverpool and England defender, admitted yesterday that he feared his career might be over prior to going to hospital for a scan on his hack this week. Jones will be out. for at least three more months. but expects to make a complete recovery from damaged back vertchrae.

be cleared in time.

The Republic of Ireland manager, Mick McCarthy, has resolved his disagreement with Manchester United's Roy Keane by including him in an

enstein on 31 August. McCarthy was furious with Keane for missing six end-of-season internationals last term, including a three-match tour of the United States, for which the midfielder had been named as captain, but he has now forgiv-

"I spoke to Roy on Saturday

McCarthy and Keane make up at the Manchester United team looks likely to be a week on Sathotel prior to Sunday's Charity Shield final against Newcas-

tie, and we had an open and frank discussion. I told Roy what mitial 33-man squad for the I thought and he has accepted World Cup qualifier in Liechtapologised." McCarthy said. There was no such good news

for the England manager, Glem Hoddle, however, as the prospects of having Paul Gascoigne in his first match in charge appeared to be fading fast. The 29-year-old has an Achilles injury and is yet to be in any match action this season. His return now

Interrestional tourhement in New Henery, Controcticus with a 7-5, 6-4 victory over Magnus Lensson of Sweden.
PROT PER INTERRATIONAL TOURNAMENT (New Henery, Consectual) First round: D Vacols (Ez Reo) is V Spaden (ES) 7-6-6-3; A Meyotech Aler) to Sampe (IP) 6-8-4, M Proposats (Aus) is K Control (EG) 1-6-6-4; Department (Aus) is K Control (EG) 6-6-4; Department (Swe) is N Man (Swe) is N M Man (Swe) is N M M (Swe) is N M M (Swe) is N M M (Swe) is N (

urday, when Rangers meet Dundee United at Ibrox, 48 hours after Hoddle names his squad for England's World Cup opener in Moldova on 1 September. France's Euro 96 outcasts,

Eric Cantona and David Gind la, have been offered a World Cup lifetine by the French coach, Aimé Jacquet, who said in an article in the French sports newspaper L'Equipe the players were in his plans for the qualifiers. "I'm not stubborn, or an idiot or crazy. I am here to make the best team possible," Jacquet said.

roenst: Cove Rangers v Fraserburgh: Rothes Keatr, Buckle Thistie v Hundy, Peremed v De veronvalc; Lossiemouth v Fores Machanes **Football** 7.30 urless stated 9:00THSH COCA-COL Clyde v Cettic (8.0) . Clydebenk v Bringers (at Partick Thistle FC) Hand's v Stenberger veronale; Lossemouth v Forres Machines; Nain County v Eigh City, Fort Wilsem v Clach-necuddh; Wich Academy v Bross Rangers. PRE-SEASON FRIENDILES: Boston Utd v Not-linghem Forest XI; Cheadle v Stockport XI,

NEW FASTER CALL 0930+

SUNTY

Speedway
PREMIER LEAGUE: Long Eaton v Hull (7.30); Poole
v Entjer (7.30). ON SWORD INSEN LEAGUE CUP Sec-d: Distribing v Bangor, Glentonan v Dun-Other sports



Regan set for WBO defence

32 PAGE SOCCER BETTING **GUIDE**

This Friday only in

The Sporting Life

Raseball
AMERICAN LEARNE: Joronto 5 Boston 1; Cheostr Winte Sor 3 New York Yanthes: 2 (10 evelops);
Texas 7 Detroc D. Ceveland 5 Cultomas 3; Cantona 11 Minnesot 1; Kurnas Cry 10 Seattle 4;
Postponed: Beltimore y Minnesote. Pasponnia Bantar y ministra. Marteni S Hauszin I; Chicago Gues 11 Mee York Mets 1. Postponed: Philadripha y Atlanta.

WOMEN'S WORLD CHARPYONE BY Clauming-ton Spot Such round; Singles Section One: Zon-tables (C. Negard-Wasser) of Zamala (M. Lief) 55-22; entard (M. Sontant) of Kerps (M. Burra; 25-12; Fig. II. Yearang, N. Bersell (M. Sontant) 75-12-Cook (Sams), O Panalth Ix Malaysa (N. Ismail 25-

St. 22.1 metand of Softmann It Kenga Ald Bureau 25.

13. Fig. 11. Victorated bit Intended All Section 25.

13. Fig. 11. Victorated bit Intended All Section 25.

17. Sociated 3 Lindwisers bit Belsmann 88 Anatomics 35.

17. Sociated 3 Lindwisers bit Belsmann 88 Anatomics 35.

18. All Section 39. Victorated bit Netherlands All Touris 25.

18. Touris 25.

18. England Bit World Miller 18. Webstands All Section 11.

18. Forge 15.

18. England Bit World Miller 18. USA All Suggests 13. Section Please 15.

18. Forge 16.

Boxing Japan's Keiji Yamaguchi has retained his World Boung Association junior flyweight title by beating the former champion. Cartos Munito of Panama, on a unan-

Equestrianism Land Rover will be the title sponsor for this year's British Horse Trials Chamo-

TODAY'S NUMBER 1,000-1

The odds offered by Ladbrokes against Ivan Lendl, the former world No 1 tennis player, winning his first professional golf tourna-ment, the Czech Open, which begins in Marianske Lazne tomorrow.

SPORTING DIGEST

Football The Port Vale striker Lee Glover, 26, will the Fort vale solver use carvait, zo, win become Rotherham United's record sign-ing when the former Nottingham For-est player joins the South Yorkshire dub-for £150,000 today.

Brightin have been ordered to pay an initial fee of £80,000 for the Rochdala midfielder Jason Peake, with further instalments of up to £25,000 efter 40 appearences. Rochdale will receive 20 per cent of any profit should the player be sold arean.

Hiberman have signed the Scomsh Un-der-21 striker Barry Lavety from St Mir-ren for a fee in the region of £200,000. Rarth Rovers have been told to pay £120,000 for the defender Paul Browne from Asten Wile by a transfer tribunal.
Rath had offered £50,000 while Villa had wanted in the region of £500,000. A Football League tribunal yesterday de-cided Southempton must pay an initial fee of £250,000 for the Stoke midfielder Graham Potter.

Chartien Athleuc have signed the Old-ham midfield player Mark Brennan on

a free transfe

STOFF

PHELAND TEAM (House Internationals, Morrey, 11-13 September): M Blackery Orlgying, W Blackery Orlgying, W Blackery (Mexicon), W Carver (Mexicon), W Louise (Mexicon), M Carver (Mexicon), M Louise (Mexicon), M Reynard (Mexicon), K Wallbook Garlinger), S Webster (Beld), R Wiggles (Porticion), New York (Porticion), S Webster (Porticion), New York (Porticion), New Y

Hockey
YOU'D MASTERS UNDER-21 TOURDMANENT
(Yughe, Methorhands) First Day, Women: Eng-land & South Mines 4; Germany 1 Nathoridas
2. Mana, Palestan, 4 England C; Centrary 1 Nathor-lands 1.

Coverery v Nottengham Forest

3 Content of National Cont

First Division
16 Bradierd City v Pers
11 Geneby v Victue:...
12 Huddensield v Charl
13 Normach v Sanndon...

Nationwide Football Leagu

Motocross Motocross
Stefan Everts, of Beigium, had his two
wins at the British round of the 250cc
world championship returned to him after the international Motocrocle Federation upheld his appear yesterday,
Everts' June victories were revoked for
using Hegal fuel but a 8 test indicated
he was within FIM standards,
wordup CHAMPIONSHIP REVUSED STANDREVUSED CHAMPIONSHIP REVUSED STANDREVUSED STANDARD (ISS 3021, 4 7 Dermin FIM
204; 5 A Barbari for Life; 6 F Beiley (FI) 185;
7 I Ferbard (See) 172: 5 W Come; (See 185; 6 F
Bever (Sen 1852; 10 P Impair (Nean 181).

RELIGION LASTIGUES

RECAL PRIME TOUR OF PAPUA ROW ELRIDA,
FLE AND NEW ZEALAND: ITRISPARTY Wed 25

Sept Medwerk match ("Papua New Garnes"). Set

225 Fest of Papua New Gafner (Lev); Son 255 Lastie

to Fig. Wed 2 Get: Madwerk match (Mad. Fig);
Set 8: Fest of Fig (Nach); Sion 7: Depart for Auch

tent's Maddend); The Sic Match

Very Control ("Corter

Park, Auckland); The Sic Next of New Zealand

KENSSON Standard, Auchland); The 22c Match

Viver Zealand Magn (Whangare); Fri 22c Second

7ast v New Zealand Magn (Whangare); Fri 22c Second

Tast v New Zealand (Cortex Second); Fri Anov.

Therd Test v New Zealand (Cortex Second)

Ringiby Union
WILES TEAM (v Berbarinas, Caniff, 24 Ambact
W Proctor Chiprell); I Reans (Limeda), L Device
Carrif, N Device Chrolit, 6 Thomas (Brigand);
N Jerides (Promyosid), R Heaviey (Cartift, 6
Laster (Swarssel), I Huspatraya (Cartift, Cartift, Cartift, Cartift, Cartift, R. L. Lowelly (Hericand), D. Joses (Cartift, N Taylor (Cartift, S Whiters
Neary), N Williams (Pringing), Replacement, M Williams (Pringing), Replacement, M Williams (Pringing), Replacement, M Williams (Pringing), L Internal Cartift, L Bristoners, March (March 1), L Bristoners, March

The French round the world yechtsmen, Bruno Peyron, yesterday marning brought his 85ft catemeran, Disneyland Explor-er, over the finish line at St Malo, France, to complete a passage from Cowes in 12hr 1min 24sec, beating the existing record by 4hrs 13min 54sec set by the

British mari yecht Longobarda in July. Alex Higgins, the 47-year-old former world champion, was yesterday beaten 5-1 by Paul Sweeny in the fifth round of the Regal West Open at the Northeck Castle Hotel, Blackpool, Higgins has now been eliminated from all four tourne-

Greg Rusedsia eased into the second round of the £700,000 Pilot Pen

Third Division

GLeon Garcas (Sol to Pt Grands (fü 7.4.2.4.6.4.4).

R Jackers (KIS) Ixt A Carteson (Swel 2.4.6.3.8.4.4.2).

R Sempson (Clern) Ixt S Capic (US) 6.3.6.3.1.1

ndt A Dechaume-Bellenst (Fr) bit 1 Lee (US) 7.5.1

3.6.6-1.4.4 Auss 67) Ixt G Pizzothen (M. 6.2.6.0.6.2).

She Fing Wang (Bail bt Jing-Glen Yi (Chea) 6.2.6.0.2).

She Fing Wang (Bail bt Jing-Glen Yi (Chea) 6.2.6.0.2

7.6 Fi Lubert (Righ bt E Linhordsman (Righ 6.2.6.1.4.1).

7.6 3.6.6-2.1 N Detreva (Bota) bt N Klimtotti (Ispan) 6.4.6-2.2

LDA SLAMMER SATELLIZE (Worthing) Weeks alugues, first round (Righ 1.4.6.2.1).

LDA SLAMMER SATELLIZE (Worthing) Weeks alugues 6.4.6-2.2.1

D Lobb 6.4.6-2.2.1 Danktison bt S Fernder 0.6.6.2.7-5.2 G Hamberson bt M Lee 6.3.7-6.4 Foster bt M Fox 6.4.6.4.6.7.6.1.7.5 (Smell) bit N A Harti (VQ) 7.6.6-7.7-6.4 V verificate agains find bt B Hartin 6.4.6-7.6.1.7.5 (Smell) bit N A Harti (VQ) 7.6.6-7.7-6.4 V verificate against in did bt B Hartin 6.4.6-7.6.1.7.5 (Smell) bit N Hartin 6.4.6-7.6 (Smell) bit N Hartin 6.4.6 (Smell) bit N Hartin 6.4.6 (Smell) bit N Hartin 6.4.6 (or 6 sactor (Main 6-1 6-4.

LEADING YITA RANGENOS: 1 M Selec RUS); 1

Graf Klert; 2 A Sendest Vicate (Spr); 3 C Mar-hors: (Spr); 4 Majok (Corne); 5 A Huber (Gar); 8

J Noothe (Cz Rep); 7 M J Fernandez (US); 8 M Selecia (Cz Rep); 9 C Ruber (US); 10 1 Desen-bort (US). WEEKEND FIXTURES AND POOLS FORECAST 13 Hearts v Kilmamock Scottish First Division

صكدًا من الاعلى

broker. ... Com

been on the potta. W. Buch Sugar and we there is the

ey for the landage of Prattice Lev

Football Club the other day. Rob-

bie Earle, a super-fit 31-year-old, was told how he could maintain those

lung-hursting runs through aoother

season, while Vinnie Jones discovered that with more carbohydrates

and less protein, he could become

Diel sheets and healthy living?

Science never really figured highly

in the Wimbledon culture. There was

a time when the Crazy Gang would

turn up its nose at these new fangled

ideas, turn up the volume on the

ghetto-hlaster and prepare to turn

over another big-name Saturday

But times have changed and stay

ing involved in what is now regard-

ed as the world's finest league

requires that Winhledon pay heed

to those changes. Jones, an hon-

ourable professional when he is not

head-banging opponents, made sure

all the younger players listened to

Wimhledon's rawness has not dis-

appeared completely, but things are

more refined oow than was the case

'Every player that

comes here is

taking a step up

and possesses a

hunger to become

a better player'

10 years ago. It was in 1986 that those

at the classy eod of football's main

street were forced to take note of the upstarts muscling in no their patch. Only a decade after they had been

elected to the Football League, the

unlikely heroes from south-west

Loodoo were up there with the hig

boys, promoted to Divisioo One. Thankfully, the rich and famous

breathed, Wimbledoo would oot be

around for long, they would surely be one-season wooders. The pundis

have fallen into that same trap every

year since that 1986-87 campaign

wheo, under Dave Bassett's inspi-

rational leadership, the oewcomers led the table after five games and fin-ished a highly creditable sixth.

It is a remarkable story, one that

salutes the capabilities of the little

man if he hrings spirit and determi-nation to his work. Wimhledoo be-

opponent.

a more effective performer.

educi and ... appears

Speedway





Qualities? The highest, which have persuaded selection panels to send for him in the national interest, despite everything. The types he has to answer to don't come across many who pose naked for women's magazines and appear on TV in bed with Paula Yates (albeit when fully clothed, and at breakfast time).

coming soon... 5



Ten years after: and the gang is crazier than ever

They were expected to be relegated straight away, but after a decade in the top flight, Wimbledon kick off on Saturday as part of the furniture. Trevor Haylett on the hard work behind the fairy-tale

lieve they have never gained proper recognition for their achievements, but then they would say that, wouldn't they? They have a problem the prejudice, however, and even their most vehemeot adversary would concede that they have a point.

In today's terms, a "Wimbledon" would be the equivalent of Stevenage Borough playing against Manches-ter United in the Premiership by 2007. Stevenage would then, in the succeeding 10 years, not only man-age to hold on to their status but also pick up the EA Cup and qualify for Europe through their League

It is the stuff of fairy-tales, but if Wimbledon managed it, why not also the likes of the Vauxhall Conference champions? It is those who have done it who are convinced it will not happen again. The Premier League breakaway, sponsorship, television deals, the Bosman repercussions, they all conspire to widen the gap between those at the top and those down below," says Lawrie Sanchez, the man whose Wembley header against Liverpool gave Wimbledon the FA Cup in 1988 and set every non-league

side dreaming the impossible.
"We were at Stevenage the other night and they were asking us what the secret was. With the changes that have happened already in the game and those that will follow, I can't see any other club doing what we did. As for us, it is going to be that much harder to stay in the Premiership for

the next 10 years." As the manager battling every day against the economic illogicality of Wimbledon's survival, Joe Kinnear would be the first to support that assessment. He has forgone a summer holiday in order to scour Europe in an attempt to join the fashioo for foreign flair, but he was forced to return home empty-handed.

"The Shearer deal has done us no favours," Kinnear says. "Everyone with perceived persecution. Remove abroad has run away with the idea that all English clubs have that sort of mooey to splash around. I was quoted £3m-plus for only average players in Russia and Scandinavia. Wheo I protested they replied: 'But you are from England you pay £15m for players, don't insult us with

your low offers'." Despite the multi-million pound bouoty arriving from the next Sky Televisioo cootract, money remains

the biggest obstacle for Wimbledon. who have just renewed their tenan-cy agreement with Crystal Palace for another five years. On average gates which, despite rising sharply last season, still struggled to exceed 13,000. ways balance precariously, which is why the club's owner. Sam Hammam, so actively pursued a move to Dublin or Cardiff.

That now looks unlikely, so the old methods of keeping the club viable - buying players cheaply, selling them on for a oice profit - will be maintained, as will Wimbledon's at-

tention to a thriving youth policy (three FA Youth Cup semi-final appearances in the last five years). Wimbledon's one major summer acquisition, the £1.9m Millwall fullback Ben Thatcher, more than dou-

Mure importantly, it is the first time the close season did not signal any departures from the club. Thatcher is a typical Wimbledoo buy. "Every player that comes here is taking a step up and possesses a hunger to become a better player." Kinnear

players have put forward through the rears to explain what makes Wimbledon special, even though, on occasion, it has brought disciplinary says, "All of them have experienced the hardships of life. They see what

scorer for the past four seasons, says that while the Crazy Gang might not be so crazy now, old habits remain. We used to get up to scrapes in the old days that we couldn't get away with now because of the publicity sur rounding the game. We are a bit more cultured, maybe not so wild, but the atmosphere, the camaraderic is as good as ever," he says. Dave Beasant, a Plough Lane veteran through nine seasons and the

we have done for others, those like

Warren Bartoo, who we took from

Maidstone, converted into a player

good enough for England and who

then moved to Newcastle for £4m."

joining. They are qualities successive

Thatcher cited "team spirit and at-

s as prime reasons for

goalkeeper whose departure to Newcastle signalled the break-up of the 1988 Wembley winners, recalled the early times with affection. "I remember a time we were on an endof-season tour to France, staying io dormitories and fed up that we had only got a £5 rise in our contracts. We stuck Dave Bassett against a wall, put a mattress in front of him and then laid into it with our fists until he agreed to give us a bit more. I think that carned us another £1.50. We stuck together like the Three Musketeers, all for one and one for

Sanchez explains the bonds that tie together successive Wimbledon teams by relating the story of two new recruits who arrived in the summer and for whom the Wimbledon way New decade, new formation: Dave Bassett with his squad at Plough Lane (above). Joe Kinnear's proved an eve-opener. "We were away on a pre-season our and after. Photographs: Herbie Knott away on a pre-seasoo tour and after-

wards both said how amazed they were that all the players stayed out late at night and all worked hard the next day. No matter what time they got in, everyone was up at 8am for

"During the long training runs, no one dared drop out because they didn't want to be seen to be weakening. At other clubs, they said there would always be one or two who fell by the wayside. Not here."

Apart from his Wembley winner, Sanchez also had the distinction of scoring the goal at Hudderstield in May 1986 that clinched promotion to the First Dirision. He ended his career at Swindon before taking his first job in management with Sligo Rovers. A year ago, the offer of a Wimbledon return as reserve team boss was too good to turn down.

"It is only when you go away that you realise how much Wimbledon are revered by clubs of a similar size. This is a unique clob and the managers that followed Bassett, Bobby Gould and Don Howe and later Ray Harford, didn't try to change the methods that had been successful."

Wimbledon's League position in the top division 1986-96 Dean Holdsworth, the leading 1987-88..... 1988-89..... 1990-91..... 1991-92..... 1992-93..... 1993-94 1994-95.....

After rejecting the opportunity last year to manage the Republic of Ireland, Kinnear feels more committed to the cash-strapped club than ever before. In January, Kinnear will celebrate five years in his unenvied job. "I don't mind admitting I would love to swap places with Alex Fer-guson or Kevin Keegan for a while. just to see what an open cheque book looks like. Somehow I don't think they would be too willing to swap." The next 10 years begin at Selhurst Park on Saturday when Manchester

United are the season's first visitors. Despite the evidence of the Chari-ty Shield, the evidence of the last decade suggests it would be unwise to bet against Wimbledon's chances

'It doesn't matter if you earn £37,000 per week, the body can only take so much. Suffering in pre-season is unavoidable'

For the past 16 years, I've faced blazing hot sunshine on the first day of pre-season training. Who says the British weather is

The last week of the holiday this year was dull and cool, hut, unsurprisingly, the temperalures in that first torturous week back in training consistently soared above 80

degrees. Around the country, different teams have different regimes for that first day back. Some coax the players back to fitness slowly and gently. This measured, delicate buildiy and gently. I has measured, deateate build-up is said to minimise injuries and strains, and the players seem to like it, too. But oth-er managers prefer the good old-fashioned technique, an approach which might be summarised as working them notil they throw up in the sand dunes in the morning, before making them chase Michael Johnson's times on the track in the afternoon. At Tranmere, they favour the latter

lt isn't too bad for me, being smaller and lighter. I can skip fairly easily op and over the sand dunes. It is the thick-set ceotrehalves and the like who have it tougher. The thought of the horrors to come must eat away at the back of their minds all summer. Nagging whispers remind them that every extra beer, slice of pudding and day

without training will have to be paid for eventually. On that first day back, the scales won't lie and you can't cheat a sand duoe. Looking around at the faces as we arrive at the dreaded dunes, various stereo-

types are clearly visible.

There's the Beginner. A youth trainee, who probably arrived back from his holiday in Magaluf late last night, still a hit tipsy. His morning will end with him oo all fours, throwing up in the sand, to general applause and laughter. In some cases, I have in the modern game, this endangered I had kept up that regime. I would have to seen it end up in hospitalisation, to slight-

ly less mirth. Theo there's the Sensible Pro. He has been ticking over all summer and has gradually huilt up his training regime over the last two or three weeks in preparation. He will do pleoty of sweating, but because he is a fairly natural athlete anyway, he is un-likely to see this morning's breakfast again. The Old Stager knows that he isn't a good

runner, but he gives everything nooe the less, even if he finishes two minutes behind the natural athletes. He probably gets more benefit from the dunes than anyone. Generally a journeyman, career player, he gets and deserves much of the respect but little of the money.

The Lazy Git wouldn't know a pain barrier if he tripped over one. A dying breed



Pat Nevin, the PFA chairman and veteran of too many dune runs with Tranmere, remembers the pains of outrageous training

species only survives if he is an extraordinary and exceptionally talented individual. Or a goalkeeper.

The Smarm is usually a youngster who says he hasn't done a thing all summer and tells everyone that he is really worried about it all. Omitting to meotion that he was the county cross-country champioo for the last two years, he effortlessly finishes way ahead of the field. This lad has a great first week, but suffers during the next week when

the balls are brought out, since most of the others enjoy kicking smug hrats.

Over the years I've tried countless methods of preparing for pre-seasoo. At 18, 1 trained hard all the way through the summer without a break, setting off oo 10-mile

have retired before I was 30.

A couple of years ago, for the first time, I took a complete rest over the summer. having picked up a few injuries. Never again: the pain of trying to get back to peak fitness in three short weeks, from a state of flaccid torpor, was hell.

Another little-known problem with the first day of pre-season training is that it usually coincides with the first day of the school holidays. Any hopes of lazing about all afternoon in a bath or recovering by slothing io froot of the television are replaced by some harsher realities, like trudging around the zoo, a long walk in the forest or runniog after the little durlings at one of those new indoor kids' playzones. A visit to the runs every other day. Youth can be so energetic, so zealous, so ... totally stupid. If

of the lads suffer far more than I do.

I knew one who slept downstairs on the couch because it was too painful to drag himself up the 14 steps at oight. At those times, a visit to the toilet for him meant negotiating those stairs on all fours, although for most of us, coming downstairs in the morning means doing a fair im-pression of Frankenstein's monster with

Keeping with the lavatorial theme, following one especially heavy and unexpected weights session, a player confessed to me that he had so much pain in his chest and arms that wiping after a visit to the loo was impossible. I hope he took care of his own

After that same training session, another player almost crashed his car at a roundabout because he was unable to turn his steering wheel due to the pain. Before that, I'd often wondered why so many professional footballers needed big cars with pow-

er steering; now 1 knew.

It doesn't matter if you cost £15m and carn £37,000 per week, the human body can only take so much. Suffering during preseason training is unavoidable because you cannot stay match fit for 52 weeks a year, a great place to be.

for a weary footballer's legs. I rarely com-plain, however, because I know that some cvery year. Injuries that have been carried have to be given time to heal correctly. Muscles have to be allowed to strengthen again because over-tiredness leads to

At the Professional Footballers' Association, we witness the effects of the stress, hurn-out and injuries, with the high numbers of players who are furced to retire carly from the game every year. There are just too many matches now. With play-offs, World Cups, European Championship, and pre-season tours to Outer Mongolia, if the money is right, the seasons seem to merge

intu each other. It's not all gloom, though. Training at a high level is addictive, and the adrenalin rush gives a real buzz. The weather is good and it is still a relatively short working day, so there is time to do other things. The season's worries are still in the future, there aren't the worries about last week's result. next week's result, the league position or even your own position. There are also the

delights of the pre-season tour. Sadly on last year's tour, my room-mate returned one morning blind drunk. Mistaking my bed for the toilet, he relieved himself all over it with me inside. At that moment, even the sand dunes seemed like FOOTBALL: With a new season imminent, Glenn Moore examines the problems of the sport's new wealth

The game's future depends on balance

Two years ago Rick Parry, the chief executive of the Premier League, went to the United States to see what could be learned from American sports. While there, one senior executive said to him. "If you think you have problems now, wait until realh big money comes into your game." Shortly afterwards, baseball's millionaires proved his point by going

English football has oot come to that yet, but it is getting close. A strike is threatened, not among the Premiership's millionaires but by the relative paupers of the Nationwide League what a good start for that sponsorship). Meanwhile, the likes of Fahrizio Ravanelli are taking home more io a week than the national average annual wage.

It all makes for differences in mood as the season starts. On the one hand the game is bigger, more fashionable and, arguably, more ex-citing than ever. The Charity Shield performances of Manchester United's players and Newcastle United's supporters left one drooling at the prospect of the season to come.

But, behind the gloss of the Premiership, there are problems. The crux of the Nationwide row is that all sides have a valid viewpoint. The First Division clubs are aware that the gap to the Premiership is growing so fast it could become insurmountable to all but the likes of Wolves. The rest are thus desperate to grab as much of the cake as pos-

That leaves the Second and Third Division clubs eveo further behind. It also threatens to squeeze the Professional Footballers' Association. Given the meteoric, and largely unforeseen, rise in television income, there is an argument for suggesting the PFA's customary 10 per cent cut from Football League TV deals could be reduced, as the PFA's members, the players, are being paid indirectly for performing on television through their clubs' ability to pay

However, it appears that the PFA is the only body that can be trusted to have the wider interests of the game at heart. The PFA is not immune from polincking, but also has



Setting out English football's stall: Asprilla, Beckham, Shearer and May represented at least £25m of talent on show in the Charity Shlekl

improving. As for the clubs, most of them cannot see beyond their own

One thing we can say with some certainty is that the next television deal with the Premiership is going to be staggeringly large. The future shape of the game will be decided by the way that money is distributed. nothing like the internal problems of This is why the PFA does not want the FA - though that organisation is to lose the battle with the League.

With the Bosman ruling likely to affect the small clubs' traditional lifeline of transfer income, there is a need to establish a system of compensation and subsidy. Otherwise, the smaller clubs will not be able to justify the expense of bringing on young players. The obvious way to do this is to take off a large slice of Premiership television income before

it reaches the clubs. If that was pro-

amenable to reducing their cut. Some chance, A few Premiership directors and chairmen have paid lip service to the idea, and so has Parry, but there has been oo indication to date of it being instituted. If it does not happen, the long-term result will be the change to the kaleidoscopic

nature of the English game, seeing

it replaced by a more monolithic ver-

posed, the PFA might be more sion, similar to the American sports scene, where a group of superclubs form a closed shop at the top.

It might be even worse. In America, the draft system and salary caps mean there is a measure of equality. Here, the Premiership is already forming into sub-divisions. There is a trio of clubs capable of winning the title, a clutch of other clubs which, with good management and finanPhotograph: Robert Hallam

cial input, could break into that group, and a rump just hoping to stay above the relegation zone.

Among those are Sunderland and, while it may not last, it is good to see all three North-east clubs in the top flight. Sunderland are the poor neighbours, while the other two show the positive side of the new money flooding the game. Five sea-. sons ago, Alan Shearer would have

been lost to Italy, while Ravanelli would never have left there. Part of the funds to buy them and pay them has come has come from TV, but much has been generated by the clubs themselves.

A similar story across the Premiership has created a division rich in skill and enterprise. Old players criticise the lack of "characters" in the game, but the foreign influx has meant that few clubs do not have at least one player worth watching.

The downside is the possible longterm consequence for the England team. Being able to train alongside Roberto Di Matteo may be a boon to Chelsea's England youth in-ternational Jody Morris, but it is no good if he cannot get into the team. The same applies to Rio Ferdinand at West Ham and Chris Holland at Newcastle.

In the short term, the national team looks in good hands. Glenn Hoddle is capable of maintaining the progress achieved by Terry Veoables, and he will be grateful for the way his predecessor blooded a succession of young talents. Even England's World Cup draw now looks more friendly, as Italy flattered to deceive in Euro 96 and their Olympic Uoder-23 team fared even worse.

It is also a seasoo of promise in European club football. There are still doubts about the mobility of Manchester United's ceotral defence but their chances have been considerably enhanced by the ending of the foreign player restrictions. For the first time since English clubs returned to Europe there should be interest, post-Christmas, in the Champions' Cup.

Whether Manchester United can cope with both their European and domestic commitments is likely to determine the Premiership. United play football the right way, and have been a shining example in the development of young players, but a fourth title win in five years would not be good for the game.

Their shareholders would not agree, but it might not be good for United either. It may be hard to appreciate at the time but every team needs to fail occasionally, it makes the successes all the sweeter. The trick is not to make a habit of it. Es-

Three young talents ready to shine...

Emile Heskey (Leicester City) Age 18.
He looks like a heavyweight boxer – he is 6'2" and 13st – hut has played most of his latter so far out on the left

-- In time, he is likely to move inside to lead the atteck, and he has already played there with good effect - he has seven goals in his 31

Leagus appearances. Versatile, Heskey can also play in midfield Tipped for a pre-season transfer and,

even though he is Leicester-born and a former trainee, it will be a surprise if he is still at Filbert Street in a year's time.

David Beckham (Manchester Utd) Age 21. Hardly a new name (37 League appearances to date), he was arguably Unit-ed's best player in both of this year's Wembley appear-

ances. But is yet to secure a role in the centre of midfield and now faces competition from Karel Poborsky in the wide right position. If he can keep his place with United he should be

able to win one with Engand. He has awareness and imagination. His willingness preparedness to work at his game is reflected in his improved crossing, while an encounter with Stuart Pearce last season showed he is no shirker.

Andy Gray (Leeds United) Age 1.8. He was the redeeming feature of Leeds's Coca-Cola Cup final. Son of Frank, he. .

defenders, and ability to go by them, which recalls his uncle Eddie. Only played 15 League games, but already appears positive and nerveless.

has a readiness to run at ...

English-born but the Scots have their eye on him. Having capped him at youth level-they would have taken him on their pre-Euro 96 tour if Leeds had not preferred him to be rested. Lee Sharpe may be about to find the left-wing position is no easier to gain at Elland Road than at Old Trafford.

and the three with most to prove this season

Andy Cole

(Manchester United) memory now. Even his well-taken championship clincher at Middlesbrough was over-shadowed by his subsequent abysmal FA Cup final display.

his ail-round game has improved and he is still chirpy, but the constant failure — and Eric Cantona's withering glares — must be chipping away at his confidence. Alex Ferguson made a point. of telling him he would not have been sold if Shearer had signed but as it is he has had the worst possible start to the season, laid up with pneumonia while Scholes and Cruyff feast on Cantona's promptings.

naaka Li

(Arsenal)

of England's Euro 96

matches without recapturing the form of old and is now in danger of losing his. international place as well as the captaincy. His problems stemmed from a persistent linee injury which prevented him from pursuing his strength — late runs into the box, while Arsenal's lack of a genuinely creative midfielder saw him miscast. He is only 30, but the nature of his game means he is likely to age quicker than most unless he can develop his game.



world last season; though ... that had as much to do with his being on a different plane to most of his team-mates. His international commitments did not help With Brazil qualifying automatically for the next World Cup, there should be fewer of those this season. Middlesbrough's other Brazilians and Fabrizio Ravanelli ought to be able to read his game. The Olympics may not have been the best preparation for a long English season, though, and we may need to remember he is only 23.

(Middlesbrough) Rarely did he look the best young midfield player in the

Money cannot compensate for the loss of a maestro

Luca Valdiserri considers what effect the exodus of talent from Italy to money-mad England may have in both countries

Rich and stupid. That was how the football world regarded the presidents of Italian clubs who showered Ajax with money to buy a player such as Dennis Bergkamp without realising that they also had to build around him the playing system in which he had previously flourished, or who imported English players such as Luther Blissett, who then became the favourite target of television satirists.

The departure to the Premiership of internationals such as Fabrizio Ravanelli and Roberto Di Matteo, preceded by Gianlu-ca Vialli - who, in the last two seasons had been the emblem of revival at Juventus has changed this perspective. And now Italians are convinced that English football clubs are rich, very rich. We will soon see whether they have also been stupid.

The first wave of emigrants with first-class tickets, a product of the Bosman case, has filled Italy with two sensations: one of losing some of the leading lights of their national sport and one of being a nation that now thinks of husiness and not just of fun. The most telling case is that of Fabrizio Ravanelli, sold to Middlesbrough for 18 billion lire (£7m). Ravanelli had cost a little twer 4 hillion when his transfer from Reggiana in 1992 was eased through by a telephone call from Walter Veltroni, a PDS politician and vice-president of the Council in the present Prodi government, to the then president of Reggiana, Ermete Fiaccadori. Veltroni is an ardent Juventus supporter and Fiaccadori was also president of Coop, the co-operative tied to the for-

mer Italian Communist Party.
The sale of Ravanelli - who scored the decisive goal in the European Cup final against Ajax in Rome last May - would in the past have been seen by Juventus supporters as the greatest of betravals. But these days, faced by such an offer, no one had second thoughts about taking such a money-making opportunity: neither supporters nor the media.







Photograph: Alisport

This players' diaspora could be an opportunity to transform Italy's provincial footballing mentality: having players abroad and watching leagues as competitive or more so than the Italian league might dispel the illusion that Italian football is the best in the world. Nigeria's victory io the Olympic tournament underlined how it is no longer enough to have a tradition, such as Italy, Brazil and Germany have, for being No 1.

For England it could on the other hand be the chance to enrich the technical vocabulary of their own footballers. Silvio Berlusconi's Milan became a superpower through their technical and tactical superiority, but also and above all through the professionalism and the example of the Dutch trio of Rund Gullit, Marco van Basten and Frank Riikaard.

Vialli, Ravanelli and Di Matteo: three footballers of national importance, and three very

different cases. The Vialli move is a fruit of the Bosman case, in that he was released on a free transfer. Juventus had anyhow decided not to count on him for the future. His fee for re-signing was too high, especially given the team's cost-cutting policy.

Ravanelli was a market-driven move in the old manner: once upon a time it was the Italians who would commit any madness to get their hands on a proveo goalscorer - now it is the English. It is not a case of the Italian football market having changed course: nowadays they still look for young players from abroad, such as Kanu for Internazionale.

Di Matteo is, for Italian followers of the game, the real blow: he is a young player who does not look on moving to England as a way of making do (Ravanelli has said more often than not that, had it been left to him, he would never have left Juventus), and who occupies n midfield position on

The Italians who were made an offer they couldn't refuse: Gianluca Vialil, Roberto Di Matteo and Fabrizio Ravanelli which the tempo and rhythm of the whole lish teams have yet to assimilate the impornational team depends. He is an Italian international at the height of his powers and, like his partner in the team, Demetrio Al-

bertini, one with a guaranteed future. Di Matteo is thus the most surprising inclusion in this exodus: Italian teams should not have let him escape. But the reality of football is often more complex than it at first appears. Juventus, in recent years, have sold Roberto and Dino Baggio, Vialli and Ravanelli, Jürgen Kohler and Andy Möller, and yet have won the championship, the

Champions' Cup, and the Uefa Cup.

Manchester United and Newcastle have bought and spent as hard as they can, but have made no progress in Europe. The su-periority of Italian clubs over these English ones may reside, in the end, in matters of organisation and in details. One example could be in players' physical preparation. The impression, seen from abroad, is that Eng-

ing programmes for each player. Juventus believed so strongly in this that their fitness trainer, Giampiero Ventrone, a former Italian naval officer, was as important as, if oot more than, one of their top players. The same applied at Berlusconi's Milan where the fitness trainer, Vincenzo Pincolini, was prevented from leaving by the president himself: he wanted to move to Parma, but the red and black team would have more happily given up Weah or Roberto Baggio.

tance of finding specific and different train-

The Italians, on the other hand, envy England with all their hearts its contracts for television rights. In these England has found an Eldorado, where the renaissance of English football started. But in Italy the relationship between football and televisioo has always been governed by political battles and handled by people with little

professional involvement in the game. The last negotiations for the sale of all television rights for all Italian football was absolutely grotesque. Vittorio Cecchi Gori. the president of Fiorentina and a leading figure in the Italian film industry, surpassed but failed to cover financially the offer made by RAI, the state television channel.

Perhaps the oext development will be in the market for football managers. The Italians would come out on top in the championship for bank balances and, in this case, ltaly would once again bring home the spoils

from foreign tournaments.

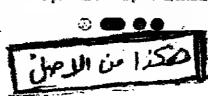
Comparisons between Italy and England will be a fraught subject again during qualification for the 1998 World Cup in France.
The oew qualifying formula does not guarantee that both teams qualify directhy: ooe of the two, assuming that they should finish above Poland, Georgia and Moldova, will have to go to a play-off to qualify. In Italy before the recent European Championship, few would have feared a qualifying group with England as the main adversary. For too many years the England team had disappointed at international level

The second secon

But Euro 96 changed the perspective. England went a long way, reaching the semifinals before losing on penalties to Germany, while Italy went out in the first round. For the Azzuri this setback may have been of long-term benefit: there is oo team like the Italians for excelling themselves in adversity and losing when in a position of safety. The match against the Czech Republic,

in Liverpool, was the best example of this. Italian opinion of the England team was also raised by Paul Ince's performance in the championship. The Internazionale midfielder started off badly and the critics had jumped on his back: "A typical English player, capable only of an aggressive, technique-free, game". But ince, in the second half of Euro 96, had showed himself to be an excellent player. He will never be a Maradona, but no one in Italy can any longer doubt his quality. And if Ince can be Glenn Hoddle's "spy" on how the Italians play, so Di Matteo and Ravanelli will now he able to even things out.

Luca Valdiserri writes for Corriere della Sera



They are trying so hard

not now called Covents

Gladiators, or Highfield

Heroes. Big Ron goes

on spending (what

must Phil Neal and

predecessors, think?!

but the signings are

beginning to carry the stamp of Gordon

Gary McAllister's

passing could bring the

best from a potentially

should add composite

they do not. Still a long

way from challenging the best but, for once,

Manager Ron Attensor

Inserves: Gary Pendry

ko Gary McAkster (Leeds) E3rro Michael O'Neir (Hibermani £300,000; Régo Genaur (Standard Lége) £1m

Out: David Renne (Northernscon) Lee Hirst, Ally Pickering (Stoke) Jonathon Gould (Bradford); Stew

Hongari (Nagari) Jame Burn Hel-Edinburgh (Commica Und

Delicat prices for home sup-porterio Adulto £15-20; phil pon half price

Tickets and prices for away supporters: 4,500 occusion at £18

Season Bokets: £250-380 OAPs and children can get a half-price season boket

round capacity: 24,500

to the defence when

thrilling forward line

when City have the

Bobby Gould, his

is a surprise they are

That was just another chapter in a medical history already running into several volumes, with texts on circulation problems and skin complaints, stress fractures and dodey hip joints, not to mention an unfortunate tendency to develop fleadaches at the least opportune moments.

 $(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathcal{A}$

 $(x,y) \in \mathcal{F}_{k}(x)$

· · · · (align

.

1.77

-

.

1.00

TENEDED HALLES CONTROL OF A STATES Under I the Futtgala អាណី ទំពស់ Mancheric tetter ! TIM. ... ing of the ter For the to Anthony is the B-21.72 ou the Charles

What he is STATE OF IT and the same tors and part for Barrie (1. 3) m n lovering 1000

PARK OF MINES Added to A BREWS f (2)c. garantah . the Jews តួភពនិះ : littlest that of the mon the Tu IFREA! wented have precedity:

The second second ove this season

The second secon

使用程序2017。- 13.45

The last we-

Concess of the first feet

The frem there ! Marine the B. Letter of the Barrel I Jugar Middlett was meichite feiten \$13.15 Page 12 14 1 Birdin -THE SECOND SECOND Inciana harris transpassion in the Mai Love de Indiana a

Brink to be to HERE WAS TO VE ferthe dance H Mary Com Mar Palants market appearance W. 330.36 1 WE THE LITTLE AND THE This is your or Bar Man resent the chargo mattenser and to had been a " lad phoci and tin terriper Life men. A Marian Sec.

TREETA

AND THE PARTY OF T

Team-by-team guide to the Premiership

Hardly the ideal start to

the season and there

may be more problems

not improve soon even

to come. If things do

Tony Adams may be

better off elsewhere

wondening if he is

he has been linked

United often enough.

manager installed

new players Bruce

Rioch was denied, If

that happens an FA

Adams, Dennis

Bergkamp and lan

Wright cannot be

disregarded.

Cup run is not out of

the question. Any team with David Seaman,

But the long term

rebuilding job is mas-

sive. Too many key

players have hat 30

and the only young

talent is, typically, at

Scott Marshall and

centre-back with

Matthew Wicks.

Manager; Coach: Stewart Houston

Cautain: Tony Adams

In: John Lukic (Leeds) free

out Mark Haus, released Ground especity: 38,500 Ticket prices for home sup-portons: Adults £12-28; chi-cen pay adult prices except in the family enclosure

Ticlotte and prices for away sup-porters: 3,000 averable at £12

Season tickets: £299-637 Ticket enquiries: 0171-704

Credit card bookings; 0171-413 3366

Seeman 17 _____Hilber 18._____Monow 20.___Kinonya

MANCHESTER UNITED

After the Charity Shield

exhibition it is hard to

denying United a fourth

title in five seasons but

there are signs of hope

for the chasing pack.

One is that Shearer is not at Old Trafford. If

his finishing had been

midfield we could have

begun writing the paens

other is the Champions

League - five of last

season's quarter-finalists failed to retain

Yet the kids are a

their domestic title.

year older and the

squad strengthened

will be missed and

fer Sunday, who

them?

with Europe in mind.

Steve Bruce's presence

Andy Cole still looks an

expensive mistake but,

would dare bet against

added to United's

imagine anyone

24 Line 25 Marshall 26 Harrian 27 Shaw 28 Hughes 29 Carter 30 McGoven 31 Rose

Lost year: 5th Prediction: 11th

Reserves: George Armstro Your Walley Youth: Pat Rice

Need to get the new

soon, and give him the

with Manchester

One-season wonders? Or back at the top to stay? Surprised everyone last year but. as their system is sometimes functional and predictable, they may be worked out this

time, especially as Paul McGrath's knees cannot go on much However, the squad is young and confident. the management astute enough to develop their style. Mark Draper could play himself into England recognition and his team into a further tilt are good youngsters coming through and

at honours. The squad may look thin but there Gareth Southgate's emergence means there is cover for McGrath. Even so, it is surprising that Fernando Nelson was the only buy.

Manager; Brian Little Assistant; Alan Evans

Reserves: John Gregory Youth: Kenn McDonald Captain: Andy Townsend In: Fernando Neison (Sporang Listian) £1.5m Out; Paul Browne (Raith £120,000; Mark Jones (Mobas

Ground capacity: 46,000 Ticket prices for home sup-porters: Adults £13-17; chi-dren £6-0 Tichets and prices for away sup-porters: 3,000 available at £13 namon ticlostic £223-277 to ults; children and OAPs £93

Ticket empiries: 0121-327 5353

	Bosnich	1300
	_Charles	14
4	Southerine	16
	_McGrath Townsend	January T
	Taylor	19Ferre 20Some
9	Milosowac	21C
	mostytol	22K
	_Joachert	24MAR



Predicting such a lowly place - 12th - is leaving a hostage to fortune - Jack Walker's. chequebook could lift them imo European contention, but can a Klinsmann or Kluwert be persuaded to join a

club with little real hope of the tide? Alan Shearer's decarture is a shattering blow, though flourish in the absence of both Shearer and Harford is at least now

moulding his team, not unkering with Kenny Yorgos Donis is an while the spring signing of Gary Croft, and lay's purchase of Robbie Elliott, suggests Graeme Le Saux will be

leaving as soon as he is fit. Manager, Ray Harker Assistant: Tony Parkes Reserves: Yeary Danacat

Captalo: Ten Sherwood

Out Alen Shearer (Hencastle) £15m; Uhie Nevel (Simmy-ham) £750,000; Gary Yellon Trichet prices for home sup-portess; Adus: \$15; chlorel £8 Tichets and prices for away sup-portess; 4,000 hashable at £15 (schirel) £8 (chlorel)

Season ticloson League £263 333; Premium £318-402

Last year: 7th Prediction: 12th	h .
1	18Gothrundson 19 — Red 20 — Berg 21 — Dorse 22 — Bohnen 23 — Fesrot 25 — Peerce 27 — Meesing 28 — Gri 29 — Jirchen 32 — Dut 33 — Johnson 34 — Croft



Hidden Personality

Chelsea are unpredictable at the almost impossible to forecast their destiny now, If Glanfuca Viali and Mark Hughes click if Ruud Guillt can both manage and play; if Frank Leboeuf

maintains his preseason form, Chelsea could be up there. Eut one wonders, is the goalkeeping good enough? Will there be enough goals? In Mike Duberry and Jody Morns there is young promise but the squad has too many ordinary players. More spending

is required. At least there should be consistently good gates to help pay the wages bill, whatever the opposition.

Starager: Roud Guild Assistant Guyn Williams Coach: Graham Ris

Youth Ted Date as Geralica Wall (Asventus) free Roberto Di Mattala (Lazio) £4,9m; Fank Leboeut (Sbokboorg) £2,5m Out: Pout Furiong (Burmington)
1.1.5m; Muzzy Izset (Leuester
1.650,000; Niget Spackmar
(Steffeld United) free, Zeke Rom
(Peterborough) free

Ground capacity; 29,700
Trainet prices for home sup-portains: Non-members £20; Members: adults £13; Children £6 Senson tickets: Only £349 Lick

Ticket esquiries: 0171-385 5545 Credit card bouldage: 0171-388 Last year: 21th Production: 7th

- Hughes
- Homes
- Homes
- Homes
- Homes
- Homes

NOTTINGHAM FOREST

Licellin

t becomes increasingly

difficult for a club with

Forest's constitution.

milionaire chairmen

from taking over, to compete. The lack of

funds has not been

recent abberations

Campbell?) in a

helped by Frank Clark's

(Andrea Stienzi? Kevin

previously good transfer record. Fortunately, he

is an excellent tactician

not get the chance to

test himself in Europe

again. This year's buys, especially Nikola Jerkan, look better even if, at

32, Saunders may be

running out of goels.
Will be hard to beat

and worth backing in

challenge is probably

"pineapple" has gone.

beyond them. The

though Jason Lee

Manager: Fronk Clark Applicant: Alan Hill

Couch: Lism O'Xane

Youth: John Pendrs

Captain: Suzri Pearco

the cups, but a championship

which precludes

4	Prediction: 15th	
	1 Dynave 2 Shaw 3 Shaw 3 Shaw 4 Welloms 5 Dack 6 Retardan 7 Dack 8 Whatan 10 McMalana 11 Salako 12 Teder	13



enough? In the last to change their image it promoted clubs have gone straight back down again and Derby are in danger of joining is an excellent signing and Igor Stimac is a niership-quality player but the rest of the squad is thin. Goals may be hard to come

by and all of Jim Smith's experience will be required to keep County up. However, the Baseball Ground is sure to tinge with atmosphere in its final season and that. combined with their aften bog-like pitch, may enable Derby to

relegation scramble. garner enough home vans to sunate. Doe of the promoted clubs has not to become a closed shop.

Coach: Steve McCurer

Youth: Billy McEman In: Aljona Ananovic (Haydus Spitt) £960,000; Jacob Laursen (Sake-borg: £500,000; Owishan Daily (Dundee Urd: £500,000; Poul Parker (Manchester United) treo

Date Darren Wrock (Grimsby £100,000; Gyn Hodges, release Ground capacity; 19,500 Ticket prices for home sup-portant: E18 Ticients and prices for many sup-porters: 1,800 analitable at £18 Sousce tickets: £320-£380 Ticket enquiries (including crud-it card bookings) 01332

Last year: 2nd (First Devision) Prediction: 17thRowers S Yares 6Strmac 7 .Van der Laan



FA Cup glory in his first season, league stability in his second. The script for Joe Royle's third year included a decent title challenge but there still appears a

and they may have to settle for a fut at a cup. Most urgent is a balscorer to partner Duncan Ferguson who and scandal, may begin repaying Evertonian

17-year-old Michael Branch may get his chance. In midfield Gar. Speed is eager and Tony Grant promising while Paul Gerrard's armal secures the future in goal. His debut may be delayed by Neville Southail's staving but

example to learn from. Manager: Joe Royle Assistant: Wille Donache

he can have no better

Youthe John Hard, Romy Good inc Gary Speed (Leeds) £3.5m; Paul Gerard (Oldnam) £3.m

Out: Gan: Abet: |Bennington| L450,000: Bany Home (Bennington) L300,000. Pane: Amotoch (Besetts) £2.75m Broand capacity; 40,180 Tlotat prices for home sup-portant: Ashits 513-18; chi-itren ET; CAPS E9 Victoria and prices for every sup-portoria; £15-17 Separate Season Scients: £189-265 Reduct empiries: £189-265

1 Source 20
8 50ard 25 450 25 450 27 450

SUNDERLAND



Will Gary McAltister's departure leave Leeds pereft of inspiration, or

will the voungsters flour The youthful promise, personified by Andy ay, is a consequence of Howard Wikinson's lengthy tenure and he main for a few years vet. His summer sign ngs are all good ones:

Liverpool wanted Lee Sowrer, Everton coveted Nigel Marnin and Cettic led a possee after lan Rush. Lee Sharpe seems expensive but he needed the move and may flourish. Yet something seems

away at Leeds and Tony Yeboah's injury is a senous blow - Leeds lost 12 of their 16 games without him last year,

Manager: Howard Williamson Assistant: Mick Hennigan Contric David Williams

Reserved: Mich Hermican Captules Ian Rush

Youthe Ende Gray, Paul Hart, Robin Was

tar on Ruch (Liverpool) free: Lee Bowyer (Charlany £2 6m; Nigel Martim (Charlany Patace) £2.3m; Lee Sharpe (Marchester United) £4.5m Scient Coary Speed (Everton) £3m; Phil Massings (SI Gallen) £500,000: Gary McARister (Coverby) £3m; Negel Wordung: £3m (Stoke) free: John Luke (Ar-sertal) free

Beleft prices for home sup-porters: £14-25 Ticket enquiries: 0113 Drudit card bookings: 0113 2920011

Last years 13th Prediction: 5th

VOTTENHAM HOTSPUR



football 7

We will never know how

close Liverpool would

have come to the title

if Jamie Redknapp had

ing for England. By the

challenge was dying despite the famous win

four points from Man-

Redinapp's mury

highlighted one weak-

in depth. Patrik Berg-

that, especially with

tration to a midfle

ness, a tack of strength

er's signing has helped

ing. Equally significantly Berger may add pene-

which was full of pass-

ing but short on forward

With Ian Rush gone

Robbie Fowler and Stan

Collymore will have to

stay fit. If they do Liver-

pool could yet make it

a three-horse race.

Amager: Roy Evers Isolatant: Ronne Moran Isolatant: Sammy Lee

Inc Patrik Berger (Borussia Dor; mund) £3,25m

Out: In Rush (Leods) has Ground capacity: 31,100 Ticket prices for home may porters: Adults £32-15; con cessions £6-7.50

closts and priors for away sup ortors: 3,059 available at £1

amon tickness: Sets cut

Ticket enquiries: 0151-260

Youth: Steve Heightery Captable John Barries

chester united.

not been injured play-

time he regained fit-

Martin O'Neill was always deslined for Premiership management but what an unpromising way to amice. Since

the play-offs began eight teams have been promoted through them, yet just two have survived, only one in the last six seasons. That is the measure of

Leicester's task and, they have no Jack Walker They recognise the problem, the mid-summer beardroom coup was engineered to provide more funds but, as vet, new players have Instead last year's top

scorer, Iwan Roberts. has left. Emile Heskey remains, but for how long? Still, there is always

forward to.

next season's promo-

tion campaign to look

Manager: Marun O'Neil Reserves/Coach: Paul Franks Youth: David Nish Captain: Steve Waish

his Justin Hantington (Ronwich Tron) Nutry lezer (Cholseo £650,000 Dut: Bnan Carey (Wrexham £50,000; Iwon Roberts (Wokes E2m Grossed capacity: 21,500 Ticket prices for home step-porture: £12-15 Victoris and prices for away sup-porture: 1,500 audicible at £15.

peson tickets: £260-140 Gredit card bookings; 0151-263 5727 Last year: 3rd Prediction: 3rd Leut year: 6th (First Decision)

....R Janes 14 Ha 15 Keemad 16 Robing WEST HAM UNITED



Not so much the East End Academy these days as the "tycee mondiale*. Still, given the astronomical price of English players it is hard to argue with Harry Redknapp's dealing. Paulo Futre and Flonn Raducioiu have

the pedigree but Richard Hall may go furthest to helping West Ham confirm their step up from relegation/ promotion yo-yo club to mid-table stability. If the youth team is not stymied by the foreign legion Danny Williamson should progress with Rio

Ferdinand next in line. Manager: Harry Redimapp Applicant: Frank Lympard

Coach: Frank Burtons Captain: Steve Potts

le: Florin Raducióus (Español) 22.4m; Mark Bowen (Norwchi free; Paulo Futre (Milan) free; Richard High [Southomoton) 51.9m; Michael Highes (Straebourg) free; Steve Jones (Boursemouth) \$200,000; Stort Mean (Boursemouth) bees Cut: Mark Walson (Bournemouth)
£150,000; Data Gerden
(Bournemouth) free; Les Seale;
(Leyton Onent) tree; Alvin Mortin
(Leyton Onent) free Ground capacity: 25,634
Ficial prices for home sup-perture: Members £16-24; non-members £17-25; concessions £8,12 Member £8-13

Vickets and prices for away supporters: 2,200-3,600 available at £18/22 (adults); £10 Season tickets: Adults: £310 460: concessions: £185-275 Ticket enquiries: 0181-548

0181-413 9014; no 0181-413 9013

Bowen

Bowen

Bowen

Bowen

Boyen

Lampord

Lampord

Fertinend

Fertinend

Fore

A decade at the top. one of only eight clubs to have survived so long, who would have thought it? Wimbledon are now so well

established that few dare tip them for the drop and for the moment, it seems, they are not even a selling Dean Holdsworth may go, in time, but Wimbledon will seek to keep him until Jason Euell is ready to take

good signing while Chris Perry would be was with a more fashionable club. A good mix of young legs and old heads with plenty of character from both groups.

Manager: Joe Kanebr Assistant: Yeny Burton Recorder: Lawne Sanchez Youth: Emo lippeti ainc Vinne Jores

2.1.34m; Duncan Jupp (Fulham) 5.1.25,000 Out: Stove Talboys (Wattord); Gerald Dotabs; Roger Joseph; Hans Sogers; Justat Skinner; Mark Thomas, et releases Ground capacity: 26,300 Ticket prices for home sup-porters Adult: £15-20; OAPs and children £10 Tichets and prices for every sup-perterm 8,000 oraclable of £15 Season tickets: £165-250 Ticket enquiries: 0181-771 8941

Credit card bookings: 0891 516 161 Last year, 14th Prediction: 14th

	14 - G000m
The Control of the Co	15
Parricis	26Th
	17 MCABS
Biocharcti	18 Ard
Thatcher	19 Caspeo
SOUTHWEST !	20 Hart
Earte	
Dicky	21k
	22
Holopyore	23
Gayle	24 Fe
Perty	25Pear
Heeld	
alvsis i	by Glen
	-,
oore	

maestro

endated a service the production figur in the it. THE PARTY OF THE P 療者引 やこっこ The barrier of The 112 PT - 1 7: 1 AND SECTION Physical in the first Martin Call - 18 3 Brune Property A 1393 Acres 1. w ! to

> Manager: Alex Ferguson antetent: Brian Krid offic Eric Ham Captains Enc Cantona

In: Roomy Johnsen (Besiktas) £1m, Ole Gunnar Sotsiger (Model £1.5m; Raimond van der Gouer (Vitesse Amhemi free); Karel Poorsky (Siavia Prague) £3.6m; Jordi Guyff (Barcelona) £1.2m; Out: Paul Parler (Derbyl free: Surve Bruce (Bermingtom) free: Tony Coton (Sundestand) £600,000; Lee Snarpe (Leeds) Ground capacity: 55,300. Ticket prices for home sup-porters: Adults £12-18; chil-

esson tickets: 1228-342 Ticket enquiries: 0161-872 18......Near 17ven der Go



Fabrizio Ravanelli... who's next? George possible now on Teesside with Bryan Robson's rebuttal of England's interest underlining the potential. For the moment the championship may still be out of reach but a filrtation with the title and a strong challenge for a European place, should be within their

about a first Wembley appearance? The Brazillans do not have World Cup qualifying commitments, Ravaneti looks well-suited to England, hard working with plenty to prove, he might even justify his wages.

enager: Bryan Robson eletant: Viv Anderson Coach: John Picketing rves: Gordon McQuee Youth: David Gedds Captain: Nigel Pearson Inc Emerson (Ports) £Am; Febraid Ravanelli (Juventus) £7m Out: Paul Willerson (Bensie); free; Jesse Moreno (Washington DC United) £100,000.

Ground capacity: 35,000 Ticket prices for home sup-ticket prices for home sup-ficient prices for home supporter ticket prices: 3,000 syntable at £17 locular; £12.50 Season tickets: Adults £225 342; concessions £125 Ticket esquiries: 01642 207014 Credit card booldags: 01642 227227

Prediction: 801	
1 Miles 2 Ost 4 Victors 5 Petropo 6 Emergo 7 Berrior 9 Mussia 10 Juniolo 11 Rannel 12 Moort 13 Welsh 14 Ferning 15 White 15 White 17 Bladence 18 Marses 17 Bladence 18 Marses 18 Marses 19	19. Jendin 21. Stamp 22. Higher 22. Liddle 23. Flotos 26. Morrie 26. Morrie 27. Barro 29. Polace 30. Bratto 31. What 32. Compbel 33. Summerbel 34. O'Hatloran



be shattering. Questions remain about the defence, notably on the flanks and between the sticks, but Sunday's demolition also showed aknesses in centra defence, midfield and attack. It was, after all the lack of goals which betrayed them in the end last season, when they only conceded two more than the champions but scored

seven less. Shearer, if the right armership can be found, should solve that problem but the right balance needs to be found behind him. As at Old Trafford one of the hardest tasks will be keeping everyone hapov. Should be experience - and possibly for Sunday's loss, but the other United seem to be

nager: Kenn Keegan at Terry McDermo Conches: Arthur Cox, Chris McMenemy and Derek Fessickerptalo: Peter Beardsley

les Alac Streeter (Slockbur Out: Robbie Eliot: (Blackburn) tr. bunal Ground capacity: 36,518 Ticket prices for bouse sup porters: Season ticket only porters: Season tolet only Tichete and prices for away sti porteen: 1,800 tickets evaluat at: £18.50 (adults); £13 (chicket Last year: 2nd Prediction: 2nd

Watson
Hodend
Breyson
Dick

Abert

Out: Kingsley Black (Correby nominal fee: Ned Webb (Exeter free: Ticket prices for bottle sup-porters: Adults £18-20; chil-dren and OAPs £9-10 Televis and prices for many sup-porters: 1,500-5,000 materials at £18 Season tickets: £200-£265 0115 Gredit card bookings: 0115 9718181

Lest year: 9th Prediction: 13th

Seesea tickets: Addis [19: 297; corcessors [119-201 iciest enquiries (including cred cond Dookings): 0114 112400 Last year: 15th Prediction: 15th



SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY

last year and no obvious indication of improvement this. That Marc Degryse and gone suggests the usually methodical David Pleat did not think their signings through enough. Andy Booth is a useful buy, but he may take time to adjust to the step up and it is a shame he will Plenty of decent

the ageing Chris Waddle, little which is outstanding, Attilio Lombardo would have added quality but, while it is a prty he will not be coming. Wednesday deserve praise for refusing his ludicrous wage demands. Someone has to - just as long it does not cost Pleat his job.

Manager: David Peat Assistant: Peter Streeves Reserves: Aftert Phelan Captains Peter Attention he Andy Booth (Hundersfield) £2.7m; Mett Clarke (Rotherham)

1300,000
Outs Marc Degryse (PSV End-hosen) (1,5m; Duna Kovasevic (Real Sociedad) 12,7m; Chris Woods (Colorado Spings) 1150,000; Lance Key (Oundee United) free; Smon Stewart (Ful-ham) free Ground capacity: 40,000 Ticket prices for home sup-porters: Adults £10-18; con-cessions £5-12 Tickets and prices for every sup-porters: 4,000 available at: £13 (adults); £9 (concessions)

> Last year: 17th Prediction: 18th Relegated Stippers 11 Hearies 12 _____ Potte



exaggerated view but that is how many people val see Dave Merrington's replacement by Graeme Sourcess. Memngton will took at Alan Ball's survival and wooden one hopes he finds work soon. Souness' signing shows ambition but. without money, what can he do which Memington did not? It will be interesting

to see how Matt Le Tissler responds to Souness's "coaxing" Bruce Grobbelaar clearly did not fancy renewing local and national government allow them ground Southampton will always be struggling to stay in the Premiership. The only difference this time is that they will not have the support of neutrals

Manager: Graeme Sources Reserves: Terry Cocper Captain: Borry Veruson

Out: Rechard Hall (West Ham) £1.5m: Torniny Widdington (Garreby) £500,000; Asin Wal-ton (Swindon) fee; Bruce Grobbe-ladr (Phynouth) free Ground Capacity: 15,000 Ticket prices for home sup-porters: Adults £17; children £6 Ticket erophics (including cred-it card bookings): 01703 337171

Dyger Denner Perner Perner Werrer Stores

Torry Coton should be well-rested after

spending last season warming Manchester's substitutes' benches. He will need to be because he will be busier this season than also has a lot to live up to, Shay Sivers's 12 loan appearances went a long way to helping It is only the second season all three North-

east clubs have been in the top flight since 1954. On the only could impress if they get the service but Roker Park's last full disappointment.

inc Graham Potter (Stoke) \$250,000; Garry Mank (Torquoy) nominal fee; Richard Dryden (Bris-ter Cry) £150,000

less attractive than Tottenham teams of yore. Relatively quiet in

other occasion, 1976-77, Sunderland went straight back down and Peter Reid will have to use all his nous if there is not to be a repeat. Michael and Phil Gray season could be one of Spurs?

Stanager: Poter Red Assistant: Paul Bracevet Reservos: Bryar, 'Pop' Robson Youth: Rick- Straga Coptain: Next: Bad inc Alex Rae (Millwaii) £1m; Tony Cotton (Manchester Unded) £600,000; Paul Steat Elver-

Out: Godon Amstrong (Buty) free, Alec Chambertain (Watford) (40,000 Ground canacity: 22.657 Ticket prices for home sup-porters: £16-22 lidets and prices for every sup-portern: 1,010 available at £16 Seeson tickets: £295-350 Ticket coquities (Including credit card bookings): 0191-564

Last year: 1st (First Division)

0 Less brittle, but also

they effectively have a new £8m player in Darren Anderton's return. should start the season running this time and. Fox to provide, he and Teddy Sheringham should score plenty of goals. Doubts at fullback and also in central defence where Gary Mabbutt cannot be expected to defy time

Soi Campbell may reed to establish himself in one position at White Hart Lane in order to do so with England. Hard to beat, and how often has that ever been said about Monager: Geny Francis Assistant: Roger Cross

Contain: Can Malyum int Attar Neison (Brondby) £1 6m; Espen Baardson (San Francisco

Out: Nerm Watson (Swindon) free; Chris Day (Crystal Pakine) £25,000; Steve Stade (OPR) £250,000; Ent Thorsteet, retired Ground capacity: 33,100 Ticket prices for home sup-porters Adult £17-33; ranceslicitets and prices for supp appearture: 2,200 or 4,400 resister at 517-20 and £20-23 Season ticheta: £330-600 Ticket coquiries: 0161-365 5053 or sciented matched

Credit card bookings: Non-members 0171-396-3567; mem-bers 0181-365 \$100 Last year 8th Prediction 5th

18 MeMohen
9 Seem
1 MeMohen
1 Me
1 Memohen
1 Memohe

An

Call for cut in betting tax

The British Horseracing Board will today publish details of its to the government to aid an industry threatened by the Lottery submission to the Treasury, asking for help in November's Budget to ease the sport's Lot-tery-induced financial crisis. In bookmakers, in a separate submission to the Treasury, asked what is, in effect, a 19-page beg-ging letter, the BHB asks for a for a 1.5 per cent cut in duty, all of which would be passed on to reduction to betting duty of 1.75 per cent, and makes it clear that their customers.

The Chancellor's Budget speech in November will thus mark the first major test of the political connections of Lord Wakeham, which were thought The most significant aspect of the BHB's submission is its to be a significant factor in his appointment to succed Lord Hartington as chairman of the BHB. Racing's submission is com-

pelling, well documented and closely argued," Lord Wakeham said yesterday. "Years of overtaxation of betting and the consequent depressed contribution from betting turnover are cow really taking their toll. Racing urgently needs a significant injection of funds to enable it to

The BHB's submission also offers an interesting summary of the state of British racing, and what a state it appears to be in. It points out how poorly we com-pare to other major racing countries in terms of the percentage of betting turnover returned to the industry, and notes that there is "a disturbing decline in investment in two-year-olds and "an exodus of high-quality bloodstock abroad for breeding purposes." Owners, meanwhile, face one of the poorest risk-to-

Clearly, it is in the BHB's interests to accentuate the negative, but it is hard to disagree with the conclusion that "unless significant investment is made immediately, racing will face a

reward ratios anywhere in the

Greg Wood reports on the British Horseracing Board's appeal of collapse if the alarming de cline in betting turnover caused by the National Lottery is not reersed. The future of top-class racing in the country where the thoroughbred was created could What such a decline might mean in human terms is set out in a study by KPMG Managenow depend first on whether the ment Consulting which accom-panies the BHB document. "The Economic Value of the Chancellor appreciates the scale of the problem, and then on whether he is prepared to assist in its solution. With income tax British Horseracing and Breed-ing Industry" concludes that in cuts an obvious priority, this must 1995, racing and betting pro-vided employment, both dibe doubtful. As the BHB's submission

points out, "racing's appeal is dearly very deep-rooted, despite the uneconomic terms on which it has been condocted, which would have led to its virtual extinction elsewhere." Even the deepest roots, though, are lit-tle protection in the face of the force 10 gale which the Lottery represents. Let us hope that Lord Wakeham, a former Gov-ernment chief whip, has not lost his touch in the black arts of po-



Ratings

LUKE ARDLEY

frey Freer Stakes at Newbury on

to the Prix de l'Arc de Triom-

Classic Cliche has proved the most durable of Godolphin's

classic winners and his battling qualities brought out his best

performance in defeat by Pen-

second to Akiyda.

Chasers stand four square

For what is believed to be the first time since the War, other than in two-runner races, an entire field returned the same starting price at Southwell yesterday. Neither punters nor book-makers could separate the four runners in the Skegness Handicap Chase (Wake Up Luv did not run), and they were all returned as 11-4 co-favourites. Maggots

tire in the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes, which was run in an exceptional time. The son of Salse can now be rated as high as 133. This year's St Leger aspirants can only suffer by com-Classic Cliche should gain one of those straightforward victories to which horses of his class parisoo with last year's victor, as are occasionally entitled, if he the representative of what is now goes for the Group Two Geof-

Durable Cliche

in comfort zone

www.

emerging as an exceptional crop. Even allowing for the bib penalty Classic Cliche will have The last reigning Ascot Gold Cup winner to take the contest to carry, Dushyantor would have a lot to find on Saturday. was Ardross, in 1981 and 1982 in terms of temperameot as well when he gave Lester Piggott as ability. Neither Henry Cecil's his 4,000th winner - and Godolcharge nor any of the three-year-olds left in the Geoffrey phin's chief standard bearer is likely to tread the same route Freer Stakes look up to St Leger standard. phe, in which Ardross finished

GEOFFREY PRIEST STAKES: Classo Cliche 1.33.
Positionas 125, Dushyantor 122, Mands Music 120, Key To My Heart 119, Phantom Gold 119, Russian Snows 118, Wayne Country 118, Wayne Country 118, Wayne Country 118, Wayne Country 117, Manual 118, Lear Winter 114, Santan 110, Han Baroque 110, Summer Spel 101, Amhem 92

SANDOWN

the livelihoods of thousands of

people may depend on whether

Kenneth Clarke is persuaded by

contention that a duty cut

should be split between a direct

cash injection for the racing in-

dustry and a further reduction

in the betting "tax" paid by pun-ters, in order to stimulate bet-

ting turnover. The BHB would

like 0.75 per cent to pass to rac-

ing via the Levy, with the re-

maining one per cent returned

to punters via a cut in their de-

ductions to eight per cent. The

their arguments.

HYPERION 7.15 Pearl Venture 6.15 Phyllda 6.45 Tambid 8.15 Gone Savage GOING: Straight course - Good to Firm (Good in places): Round course .- Good (Good GOING: Straight course - Good to Firm (Good in paces); mount course - Good (Good in Firm in places).

STALLS: Straight course - far side; remainder - inside,

DRAW ADVANTAGE: High numbers have considerable advantage in 6f races.

Regis-band track with a separate fit course,

Regis-band track with

SIS

ELEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: R Haman - 39 winners from 317 runners gives a sucress ratio of 12.3% and a loss to a \$1 level stake of \$63.42; J Gooden - 22 winners, 105 runners, 21.7%, +\$6.26; J Dandop - 20 winners, 105 runners, 18.2%, \$7.35; I Balding - 17 winners, 102 runners, 107%, +\$5.83.

ELEADING JOCKEYS: Pat Eddery - 58 wins, 270 rides, 21.5%, +\$10.82; L Dettort - 19 wins, 114 rides, 18.2%, \$10.80; T Quinna - 28 wins, 197 rides, 14.2%, \$114.29; W Carson - 20 wins, 187 rides, 18.2%, \$10.80; T Quinna - 28 wins, 197 rides, 14.2%, \$114.29; W Carson - 20 wins, 188 rides, 18.2%, \$457.89.

BLIANERER FIRST TIME: More. WINNERS IN LAST SEVEN OATS: Artial Dame (5.45) won at Bath on Thursday. Old School House (7.15) won at Bath on Thursday. Principalities (5.45) sem 228 miles by J L Eyre from Sutton Bank. N Yorks: Metal Boys (9.16) sem 210 miles by Mas L Siddal from Cokon, N Yorks.

5.45 PACEMAKER & THOROUGHERED BREEDER RACING SCHOOLS APPRENTICE HANDICAP (CLASS E) £5,000 added 1m 14yds

6.15 WEYERROSE MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS F) £5,000 added 270 5f Penalty Value £3,586 S Whitworth 13 G Retter 11 R Cockrase 7 P Bloomfield 4 B Dojle 8 Pat Edday 2 W Woods 5 6 OF REBAIL EQUITY (20) (A S Helassi) 8 Meeten) 9 O. Broyle 8 7 60 TALWAND (440 (R Harri) W May 9 O. Pat Eddary 2 8 O TEST THE WATER (34) (25 Threadmell R Harmon 9 O. W Woods 5 9 TURAPA Clougles King Mas A King 9 O. S Drowne 11 10 33 CHAIN RESCRICK (60) (Mas Cay Javad M Jewis 8 9 P. Robinson 3 11 GREEN BOULEVARD (USA) (Reinn F Scale) | Beiding 8 9 P. Loubed 1 12 PRITLIDA (Mas P I Nation) P Maton 8 9 S Sandies 10 13 STOCK HELL DANCER (Mas M Factorin) N Buttes 8 8 D Hardson 8 13 STOCK HELL DANCER (Mas M Factorin) N Buttes 8 8 D Hardson 8 12 BETTING: 100-30 Incentine, 5-1 Chain Resection, 11-2 Phylida, 6-1 Green Boulevard, 15-2 Test The Water, 8-1 Hot Stot, 10-1 Parkly Lad, 12-1 Talwind, 20-1 others. 1995: Supreme 2 9 O C Rutter 13-2 (W R Man 8 con FORM GUIDE

rectly and indirectly, for more

than 100,000 people. In rural ar-

eas, where alternative employ-

ment is often scarce, the

industry employed the equiva-

lent of one in eight agricultur-al workers. In major training centres such as Newmarket and

Lambourn, meanwhile, at least

a third and up to a half of all jobs

in the area depend on racing.

Many of these local

economies, as well as hundreds

of betting shops, will be at risk

1995: Supreme 2 9 O C Ruster 13-2 (W R Murf 8 cm.)

FORM GUIDE

With a good draw (11) and the benefit of a previous run, INCATTME makes most appeal, He was a 25-1 shot on his Windsor debut but raced crominarity all the way to be third to Gunners Glory and he may not need to improve on that to score against these rivals. This is a much easier race than the Newmarket one won by Grapeshot last month, when Test The Water, who critted from 10-1 to 33-1 was ninth of 33. Richard Hannon's cold must be feared, and so must Tallwind, with Pat Eddery booked, atthough a low draw is against him. On breeding, it is not certain what will be Graven Bouldward's best up and Ian Belding's newcomer has the lowest draw of all to overcome, Chain Reaction has been besten a fell way in finishing find both starts to date and is another drawn low, but Mercyhill Martiner is brad to be speady being the first foat of Mercyhill Mad, while Tulkapa also has a likely-tocking pedgree and is well berthed (12 of 13).

Selection: INCATTME 6.45 ELMBRIDGE CONDITIONS STAKES (CLASS C) £8,000 added 1m 14yds Penalty Value £5,296

the Statis finished behind Lomberto in the Horris Hill last year and is another who should be surted by some give in the ground, but he has not run for four months. Alveyr, unbeaten in two starts, has been off since beeting Lucayan Prince a neck at Leicester in May and has it do with a 10th pensity, while insalyable give little encouragement in Hermerstien's Goodwood race recently but may have needed the run having been elbeent since winning at Donosster in March, Patter Neeter has also been off since March and there needs to have been overnight rain if his scale is to allow him to take his chance today. Tambild would have a good chance if able to reproduce the form of his runs behind Remood and L'Ami Louis er Triarish to the some. OURST

The first term of the second o

7.15 SURREY RACING HANDICAP (CLASS C) £8,000 added 1m 6f Penalty Value £5,550

— 10 decistred —

Minimum weight: 7st 20th. True handlesp weight: Old School House 7st 9th.

BETTING: 9-4 Ballyankely, 6-1 Arctio Pancy, 6-1 Old School House, Turkor Island, 7-1 Ayresis, 8-1

Peart Venture, Steamwolfer Stanly, 20-1 others.

1995: Broughtons Formula 5 7 10 J Quinn 100-30 IW Musson) 5 ten

1965: Bougiaons Formula 5 7 10 1 Quinn 100-30 NV Musson 5 ran FORM GUIDE.

BALLYNAKELLY can make it seven wins on the tort. Reg Alvehunst's ex-irish gelding was impressive in winning three times on the Lingfield all-weather during the winter and has carted that form over to turf, winning at Concester, Lingfield and over this course and distance. Ballynskelly scored by two and a half lengths from Teider Island last time, with Bendfuet two lengths further back in flouth, and he can confirm superiorly despite meeting those rivels 60 worse. Tudor Island was having only his second roce of the season then and could well be the one to test Ballynskelly most again. Old School House took adventage of a good handicap mark to follow up his Donosster win at Bath recently but has much more to do now. Charlie Oper ran two in a 15-flating Group Two or Longehamp last month, including Scenaroider Shanly, who had beston Fursan three-quanters of a length at Newbury proviously when officially rated 65. Although beaten 18 lengths in fourth of five in France, he showed normal improvement, and, having been raised 5th for his Newbury win, was pur up another 12th. Arritic Fassey at 4th higher then when caught close home by Mystic Hill at Newbury, but he should be suited by the likely easier ground and has every strance. Myusit has quite a big weight for his flirst handicap but should improve for the step up in distance, though the timp may be on the sharp side for Pearl Venture.

Selection: BALLYNANCELLY

Γ	745	COBRAM MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,100 a	dded SKY
L	1.14	1m 2f Penalty Value £3,615	100
1		SOLO VOLUMES (M Green) H Rowsel 7 9 7.	
2	- 0	HONEYSHAN (20) (Terry Cooper) D (french Davis 4 9 2	
j	04056-0	BACK BY DAWN (\$2) (W A Hamson-Allan) O Shooth 3 8 12	_Deno O'Noil (3)
4	3	BALLET HIGH (12) (Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber) I Balding 3 8 12	R Cochrise 4
5	3	FELIAL (20) (K Abrastah) G Harwood 3 8 12	Put Eddery 13
ă	00	GULLMER (107) & Aboutet) 8 Hrs 3 8 12	H Thomasur



1965 Polydamus 3 8 12 W 8 Swinburn 2-1 IM Statuth 18 ran

FORM CUIDE

There is a doubt about FILIAL getting this top on padigroe – he is by Daniehill out of a French one-mile winner who is asser to Sigy – but the way he was keeping on in third to Yaltal over a mile here on his debut last month suggests it will not be a problem. He should certainly improve for the sun and Pat Eddery takes the ride. Unalloyed, fifth of 1.4 in Quota's course and distance molden back in April and her only run, can improve. She is one of three Shelkh Mohammed-owned runners and carries the first colours. John Gosden runs three, two of them owned by Shelkh Mohammed, and Franke Dettox is on Restoent, a well-besten last of five on his Yamputh debut in Juna. Perhaps the pick will be the Hamdan Al Maldoum-owned Riverman newcomer Rakeefia, with Willia Carson nating. Well-ored Ballet High, third of four behind Lieffing at Ascot 11m49; recently, should prove best of the others, although Guillves, who weers the second colours of Kralid Abdullah, as worth keeping an eye on after a near four-month break.

٤	15	PRINCESS ALICE HOSPICE HANDICAP (CLASS E) SKY
1	300241	SONE SAVAGE (11) (CD) (The Square Yable) W Museon 8 8 10
2	44-0636	THAI MORNAG (\$3) (D) (The This Connection) P Horis 39 7
3	6315-00	PALEY PRINCE (USA) (7) (CD) (Shinel Partners) M Usher 10 9 6
4	300030	BARRANAK (LA) NI Mec Certin) G McCourt 49 4
5	000515	SQUIRE CORREC (7) (CO) (G Harwood) G Harwood 49 3
6	002400	METAL BOYS (26) (CD) (Mess 1 C School Mess 1 Scical 8 9 0
7	0-22002	ANOTHER BATCHWORTH (16) (D Price C Walesheld C O'Toolel E Wheeler 4 9 0.7 Sprake 1
8	0-04	JOHN'S LIGHT (21) (R.) Downes; M. Heston-Ellis 3 8 1.1
9	033422	HALF TONE (LA) (b) (liks G M Tespercented) R Florer 4 8 10 7 Quien 12 8
10	334040	SUPERLAD (BEL) (11) (D) (J J Bridger) J Bridger 4 8 0
īī		LOGIE PERT LAD (903) (Donald J Smith) J Bridger 4 7 10
12	0-00033	COCALIGNES GET (7) (Mrs P Strond) P Burgoyne 4 7 10
Min	ionan wele	tic 7st 10th. True handlose weight: Lode Part Lad 7st 4th, Oschights Gift 6st 12th.

Agreement Wagger, Fac Julia, Trou Franciscop Weight Euger Park Earl Fal was Goodges Safe Vol. 2016. BETTIMER: 14-6 Game Savages, 3-1 Half Tones, 5-1 Squike Corrie, 8-1 Amother Batchnorth, 10-1 Timb Morning, 12-3 Barringes, 15-1 Others. 1995: King Rat 4 9 10 W Carson 13-2 (T Ethernoglon) 9 ran

1995: King Rat 4 9 10 W Carson 13-2 (If Etherngland 9 ran Porant Guilbit)

Course specialist GONE SAVAGE was bvice unlucky here in fireshing second to Magic Mail (poorly drawn and saddle pri broke) and fourth to Squirie Corrile (hampered two fundings but) before winning at Windstyr last time (Superiso Seventh and Parkey Philose infinite of Julian - Ambie Massan's elgry-generoid meets Squire Corrile (Bib wasse this evening, but he is well drawn and fencied to gain his fifth wit over the course and distance. Midnight Spell's Bett win yesherday was a boost to Aubither Bartelmorth, who ren thet rivel to a length and a quenter at Srighton last time, but she will do well to win this chawn towest off till. Half Tone, who has only ever won on the alf-weighter, is running well, lest time going down a head to Youdonstay at Goodwood (Barranak eighth). He has the best of the draw. Selection: GONE SAVAGE

SALISBURY

HYPERION 1.45 Rasmussen 2.15 GREEN POWER (nap) 2.45 Amazing Bay 3.15 Wilfull Lad 3.45 Altamura 4.15 Misty Cay 4.45 Gonzaga 5.15 Dramatic Moment STALLS: 5f & 6f - far side; 7f - centre; In 4f - stands' side; remain-

det - Inside.

BEAW ADVANTAGE: Low for lif to 'If when going is soft.

Richt-hand course, mainly upbill and testing.

Rise-t-hand course, mainly upbill and testing.

Rise-ecourse is ilm south-west of city off A3004. Salistany railway station (London, Wisterion-Execter line) is ilm many. Connecting his service to course. ADMISSION: Members 5 12; Tatarpalls 53; Course Euritosure 5-4 (accompanied under-1ds free all enclosures). CAR PARK:

SIS PACING ALINEERED FIRST TIME: Bauring Free (4.15). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN HAYS: None.

243 miles by J Berry from Cockerbam, Lancast 1.45 ISLE OF WIGHT MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) (DIV I) £4,250 added 270 7f

LONG-BISTANCE RUNNERS: My Melody Farker (2.45) has been sent

INCLINATION M Blanshard 89... Q4 JULIETTA MIA (20) 8 Hills 89... __ J D Smith (5) 10 2.15 EBF SANDOWN MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 added 270 6f

AMMAS 8 HAS 90 ARTHURYS SEAT Lord Humington 9 0...
5 GRISEN POWER (47) I Fandame 9 0...
5 HATTAB (18) P Watern 9 0...
03 MERCEESS COP (81) 8 Meetan 9 0... ...B Doyle 8 KIKADDAR C Berts POLISH WARROOR (13) P Crescle-Heart 90 SHARP HAT (20) (BIT 8 Harmon 9 D. SHARP HAT CAN (BH) B Harron 9 0 SELVER SECRET (11) !4 Hezzon-Elis 9 0 SUDEST (21) I Batcing 9 0 AR KITO Y KINOS R Charlon 8 9 5330 LIFE ON THE STREET (44) 8 Harmon 89.

2.45 AMESBURY FILLES CONDITIONS STAKES (CLASS C) £7,650 added 5f

3.15 K S LESTER MEMORIAL CHALLENGE CUP HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,200 added 1m 2f 8 6-404 INJUNY NECTARY (23) G IDRING 3 8 11.
10 0-69221 THATICHMANIERY (21) C Hogan 5 8 10.
11 642605 SHMANIERYO (23) 8 MARTAN 88 6.
12 604-400 WARSHIE (14) B O'Salbein 6 8 5.
13 002105 MARIASK (12) (3) 5 0w 3 8 3.
14 312530 RIBNES (12) (7) (9) (9) M Blurishort 5 8 2.
15 000-050 RPSWORTER (44) K Bishop 7 8 0 - 15 declared
- 15 declared
DETIME: 3-1 Ashby Hill, 5-1 Thatchmaster, 6-1 Law Dancer, I
Fairy Knight, Sweet Parlova, 12-1 Exemption, 14-1 others. 3.45 UPNVON FILLIES STAKES (CLASS A) (Listed Race) £17,000 added 1m 2f

9 13-45 WHEST (86) R Herrori 38 5 Dame O'Well 6
9 13-45 WHEST (86) R Herrori 38 5 Dame O'Well 6
98 TIME: 11-4 Min Alterna, 7-2 Sardonke, 5-1 Flamo Valley, 6-1 Te Avan, 7-1
Alternation, 8-1 Bryacks, Perrori Angle, 12-3 others. 4.15 BEMBRIDGE CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) 650 BROADGAIE FLYER (2.1) W Javes 8 13 ...
050 SCARROTS (22) S Willows 8 11 ...
050 SCARROTS (22) S Willows 8 10 ...
050 SRACAN (25) R Charlon 89 ...
245462 SPORDULOUS (29) 8 Hannon 8 8 ... Dene O'Neil (3) 9 515431 DASHING ROCKSVILLE (12) (D) M Charmon 8 8.......Pat Eddary 2 20343 DRIVER VIOLES VIO — 13 dechese— SETTING: 5-2 Misty Cay, 3-1 Desking Rocksville, 5-1 Spondalictor, 6-1 Abecard, 8-1 Broadgain Flyer, 10-1 Grovelor Led, 12-1 Scarcots, 15-1 cities.

4.45 ISLE OF WIGHT MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) (DIV II) £4,250 added 270 7f THER NEEDT R HATTON 80 _W J IFCooner :

	5	GONZAGA / Duniop B O	7 Sprake 3
	6	6 HIGH EXTREME (IA) P Chapple-Hyam 9 0	R Hughes 4
٠	7	3 MOON BLAST (7) Lady Herres 9 0	Rold 9
	8	5 NORMAN CONQUEST (29) 1 Balong 9 0	Paul Eddoy 11
	B	SMART PROSPECT 8 Mechan 9 0	
	10	4 CHARMANS DAUGHTER (29) P Cole 8 9	
•	11	KAFAF J Gosden 8 9	
	_	- 11 declared -	
	BETTEN	© 11-4 Moon Blast, 7-2 Kafef, 5-1 High Extreme.	8-1 Goszada, 10-1
		ert, Chefrennes Danuthier, Hurrean Congnest, 12-1 o	
	40,7.00	and and a section of the section of	
	-	REWPORT FILLIES HANDICAL	0 001 ACC E
	5.1	5 RESTORT FILLES PARISION	(CLASS E)
		£4,200 added 1m 4f	
		01-00 AYUNLI (47) (D) S Williams 5 10 0	
	2 36	3431 RASAYEL (10) (D) P Dens 6 9 10	
	3 06-	6103 SHINENG DANCER (14) S Dow 4 98	7 Order 3
	4 084	3215 DRAMATIC MOMENT (28) (C) Baiding 3 8 5	Martin Dwyor (5) 15
	5 0	0-544 TURIA (41) Major () Chappell 3 9 4	T Sprake 4
	6 0	0-603 DALWEIRONE (48) J H/s 3 9 4	M Has 5
	7 64	3214 LADY BANKES (23) W Tumer 3 9 3	P P Murphy (5) 7
	8 00	0310 EVIDENCE IN CHIEF (7) 0 Elevanth 3 9 2	A Procher 1 V
	9	000 LIZZUM (90) J Fox 4 8 10	W J O'Cormor 11
	10 42	1615 KRESTAL BREEZE (10) W Mur 488	I Reld 9
	11 352	2-101 GLOW FORUM (18) (CD) L Montague Hall 5 8 7	Dogo O'Noil (3) 2
	11 604	0620 AGE OF REALITY (7) (BF) H Candy 386	5 Dutteld 11
	13 113	3-547 HOCQUAINE BAY CLO (CD) (SIF) M. Bolton 9 8 2	i Onion S
	14 54	0000 RESIENATE (16) O Basing 3 7 11	N Adems 10
	15 06	0003 HAWANNEA (16) R Hannon 3 7 11	Declar O'Shea 8
		- 15 declared -	
	BETTING	2 4-1 Ranayei, 5-1 Shining Daucer, 6-1 Glove Forum	, 7-1 Dramatic Mo-
	mant, 8	-1 Kristal Brosze, 10-1 Datablania, Evidence in Ch	ef. 12-1 others.

RACING RESULTS BATH

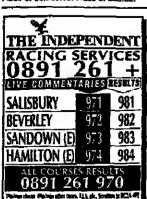
2.00; 1. CHARLTON IMP (S Drov Codin: Duncer 33-1; 3. Northern S 14 ran. 7 -2 for Fra Law. Shind, %. iR Hodges, Somenon, 7ote: E8.00; £2.20, £7.70, £9.90, DF: £48, £0, CSF: £165.01, Tno: Not won, Non

CF. £48.10. CSF: £165.01. Too: Not won. Non Runner: Ornston Warmer.
2.30; 1. CATPORO (S. Drowner 8-1: 2. Sharp Sharffler 1: 2: 3. Sharp Sharffler 1: 2: 3. Sharp Sharffler 1: 2: 3. Sharp, Fyfeldi, 7oter. (9.50; £1.90, £1.20, £5.10, £1.50, DF: £21.80, £5. £35.98. Trocat: £42.398. Troc. £108.60. Non Runner: Metornania.
3.00; 1. DaNaCartiennikari/Awikar (B. Doye) 10. 1. 2. Blues Quoop. 4-1; 3. Bold This 9-4 kar. 12, ran. 11. -/-. (8 Mechan, Lumbourn). 7oter. £11. 10: £2.70, £1.80, £1.30. DF: £24.60. CSF: £49.55. Troc. £24.40.
3.30; 1. GMUGULESTOWE II Quinn) 11.-2: 2. Bold Classic 8-11. by; 2. Hill Form Demoer 2. Bold Chastic 8-11 km; 3. Hill Form De

3.30: 1. CHUCKLESTONE I/ Quanti 11-2: 2. Bold Clausic 8-11 for; 3. Hill Ferra Denote: 1-1 4 ran. ni., 2. II King, Swidoni, Toto: 5.00, DF: 22.50 CSF: 29.63.
4.00: 1. MiDNIGHT SPELL ni. Henry! 9-2: 2. Silk Cottage 9-2; 3. Cell Me Fin Blue 9-1. 7 ran. 7-4 for Mindrace (42n. 2-2, 11., 1) Hids, carbount. Tette: 66.10: 63.0. 2.2.80. DF: 10.80, CSF. £22.77. Imposing Time II-1; withdrawn of Luder carbon; Rule 4 applies, to board procs only, deduction 10p in the pound.
4.30: 2. MAID BY THE FIRE! (Dring O'Nell) 8-1. 2. Misserski Monk 3-1 Liv; 3. Another 13-1. 10 ran. sri.-hd. 11., IP Cole, Whatcombel. Total: 68.90; 52.50, 51.70, £3.80. DF: £13.30. CSF: £30.50. Tincst: £313.30. Inc. £103.70.

5.00: 1. PISTOL (Paul Eddard 5-2 at lasc

11:: 10 Horgan, Woungsami. Tobe: £3.50; £1.40, £1.90, £2.20. DF: £4.60, CSF: £18.70 Theast: £78.34, Jackput: not won. Pool of £4.156.81 car-ned ferward to Sundami today). Place 6: £1.059.63. Place 5: £83.63. Place 6: £1.059.63. Place 5: £83.32.



2.15; 1. GEORGE ASNFORD (A S Smoth) 4-1; 2. Blue Ravon 11-4 fay; 3. Quixal Crossett 20-1. 7 ran. 20, 13. (K Morgan, Melton Mowtray). Tota: £3.90; £2.20, £2.00. DF: E5.40. CSF: £14.10.

245: 1. MAGGOTS GREEN IR Johnson)
11-4 co fav; 2. Noblety 11-4 co fav; 3. Noeatishim 11-4 co fav. 4 ran. 11-1 co fav The
County Trader 14th, 4, 18, 11 Bradley, Chepstows, Tortes £4.50. DF: £4.20. CSF: £9.23.
NR: Wake Up Liv.

3.15: 1. GLENNALLY (G Bradley) 5-2: 2.
Irle Mon 8-15 fav; 3. Shalik 9-1. 4 ran. 6,
13. 18 Murray, Matton). Total £3.50. DF:
£1.70, CSP: £4.27.

> RICHARD EDMONDSON **NAP: Dramatic Moment** (Sallsbury 5.15) NB: Lap Of Luxury (Sandown 6.45)

av. Z. Desert Challenger 5-4; 3. Pertemps Flyer 14-1, 9 ran, 12, 6; 15 hettiswell, Mid-deham). Tota: 52.20; £1.10, £1.10. DF: £1.10, CSF: £2.48. 4.15: 1. TD are: 5-4 km; 2. Antiguen Fiyer 8-1: 2. Lever Light Lady 25-1. 5 ren. rk, 26, U O'Shea, Strat-tord upon Avoru, Toter £1.70; £1.10, £2.30. OF: £8.90, CSP: £9.92.

4.45: 1. RUDITS PRIDE (N Smth) 3-1; 2. Game Dilemma 13-8 fb: 3. Vain Prince 4-1. 6 ren. nk, 3. (S Bell, Driffield). Toke: £4.20; £2.20, £1.30. DF: £3.30. CSF: £8.03. at: £227.10. Out

John Durkan will start training next year from one of Newmarket's most historic yards. He is buying Green Lodge Stables from Tom Jones, who has announced he will retire at the end of the Flat season. "Green Lodge is a 50-box yard and I'll do my best to get it as full as I can, probably with about 40," Durkan said yesterday, "I have a few orders for yearlings starting at Doncaster and working my way through the sales. Durkan, 30, has spent the past three seasons as assistant to John Gosden.

BEVERLEY

HYPERION 2.00 North Ardar 2.30 Irish Sea 3.00 Captain Carat 3.30 Double-J 4.00 General Glow 4.30 The

BLINKERED PIRST TIME: Plottle'in 12:301 WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN HAYS: No. LONG OISTANCE RUNNERS: Durham (2.00) & Shelins Dreum (2/10) have been sent 272 miles by R Simpson from West Buckland, Somerset, Triple Term (4/30) & The Swam [5/00) sent 245 miles by J Dunlop from Arundel, West Sussex. 2.00 GRAPE LANE SELLING STAKES (CLASS F) £3,450 added 1m 4f

- 8 Secissed -EETING: 5-4 North Artier, 7-4 North Bear, 9-4 Durksent, 33-1 Planethry, 60-1 Crambella, 66-1 Chesters Quest.

2.30 ALLDERS OF HULL CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS E) £4,200 added 1m 100yds 004025 PAREMANENT PRECE (46) (D) (BF) 0 Notoes 10 9 10... 1 004025 PAREAMAST PRICE (46) (3) (BT) O Notote 10 9 10.

Alex Greenes 9

2 101510 BROCTURE GOLD (18) (0) Mrs M Reviely 5 88 _ X Darley 9

3 2634 BRISH SEA (USA) (4) (BF) D Necrois 3 9 3 _ J Beauthit (7) 7

2 00056 BRITE COLDURS (5) Don Empo Inces 7 5 9 _ Mor Trailer 2

5 06000 M ROCK (56) J Notion 4 8 7 _ G Pacifin (9) 8

6 00000 PORSET PARIS (36) 8 Rotmed 38 5 _ M Fention 4

7 02034 SEAMO (18) (10 Notes 4 8 3 _ J Tes 6

0 00000 PORSETM (21) J1 Nams 3 8 2 _ J F Egin 3 8

9 0-620 SHELAS DREAM (112) 8 Smyson 3 8 2 _ A Clark 1

9 declared
BETURE: 7-2 hists 5ee, 4 1 Prefixered Pleas, 9-2 Brecture Gold, M Rock, 5-1 Sheard, 9-1 Sheltes Dream, 12-1 Battle Colours, 18-1 others.

	.00	STRUTHERS AND CARTER HANDICAP (CLASS 0) £5,500 added 57 JUGA (A) go J Spearing 7 9 10
,	220216	THE WAD (24) (SF) O Nachols 394W Ryan 2
	1603-61	secucions and an area from the contract of the
7	20/267	Contrary Capaci No. (c) (C
5		WEEDCHARD I LAD MIN DN MASS HIM 4 9 2 JN COMPANIES
3	A112706	마마마스타니 오르구 다이 다음 전된 다 나라면 속을 보고 본 의학자 (
	424002	METTAL STRUMPTS OF SIGN M. DOCS 7 & 10 A LARK O
1	023105	JUST DISSIDENT (G) (C) (GP) R Whitelet 4 8 9.

4 43-4201 FLAME VALLEY (11) FD M Strute 385... — JU declares —
Minimum weight: 7s: 10th. True handicap weight: Rotherfold Park 7s' 2th.
SETTING: 4-1 Greeningti Lad. 5-1 The Wad. 11-2 Hed's Bossesza, 6-1 Citate Casat, 13-2 Rich Wow, 7-1 Able Sterfff, 6-1 others.

3.30 CONTRAC-IMATION NURSERY HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,500 added 2YO 5f

DAILY MAIL HANDICAP (CLASS E) £5,500 added 3YO 1m 2f

1 412563 KHOFF (33) S Williams 9 7 PMcCabb (3) 4
2 205500 GALAPHO (12) (D) C Bottom 8 11 J Calobbel (7) 5
3 0,00000 CRASHMAN MACSHID (80) 7 Seatorly 8 4 Sudday 6 000162 FALCON'S FLAME (USA) (8) (2) (8) His J Remaden 83 006011 CENERAL CLOW (9) (D) P Bers 8 1 (5e). 4.30 JOURNAL MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,100 added 270 7f 100yds Z. FATTHER (259) J DURKEY 9 0 ... A Clark 4 Studie 9 0 ... K Faillas 1 0 EBN ST JAMES (25) J Bernell 9 0 ... A Clark 4 SS MARRADI (25) 0 Morky 9 0 ... K Durkey 5 0 ... M Practice 6 SECRET PASS (854) (81) E DURKEY 9 0 ... M Practice 6 SECRET PASS (854) (81) E DURKEY 9 0 ... M Practice 7 TRURKEY (27) (87) H Ceel 9 0 ... M Practice 7 TRURKEY (22) C BRURKEY 9 0 ... J Batchbed (7) 7 TRURKEY (22) C BRURKEY 9 0 ... J Batchbed (7) 7 TRURKEY (22) C BRURKEY (23) C BRURKEY (23) DURKEY 9 0 ... J Batchbed (7) 7 MRPUE TERMA (20) J DURKEY 9 0 ... J 9 McCabe 3 ... G destroad ... S destroad ...

 6 declared -- 8ETTING: 6-4 Stories 7c Tell, 9-4 Perther Outlook, 4-1 Maradi, 5-1 Triple 5.00 CHARLES ELSEY TROPHY (HANDICAP) (CLASS D) £6,000 added 2m 35yds

-9 declared -2277196: 7-2 The Swan, 4-1 Embryonic, 9-2 See Victor, Claret: Collect 8-1 Rustien Reider, 8-1 Double Agent, Cangle Smoke, 10-1 others.

441106 COLLEGE DON (352) (D) N Bistry 5 9 0 D & McCabe 6

HAMILTON

5.00 Lord Avocate 6.30 Hever Golf Stor 7.00 Tropical Beach 7.30 Gulf Of S 8.00 Dil Dil 8.30 Alistars Rocket

GOING: Good to Firm.

STALLS: Im 65yds & Im 1f - inside; rest. - stands side.

REAV ADVANTAGE: High best for Im 65yds.

Regu-hand undulating course with pear-shaped loop.

Rececourse is north of town on B7071. Empiron West r station (service from Glasgow) Im. ADSIDSSION: Club \$12; stand and Paddock \$7 (\$4 for OAPs, disabled & students, \$ complex); secompanied under-16s free all enclosures.

PARE: Free. SIS

BLINESEED FIRST TIME: Sheraton Girl (8.30) WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATS: Tropical Beach Miss (6.30) & Flying Harold (8.30) have been sent 370 m M Chancon from Opper Lambourn, Herishire; DH DH (R.OU) has nent 360 miles by W Haggas from Newmarket, Suffolt; Classic I: ty (T.30) has been sent 358 miles by 8 Harris from Emmig, So Mentaliseasyltin (6.00) & Neitzral Key (T.00) have been sen miles by D Haydu Jones from Elidi Isaf, Mid Glamorgiur; Oxgang (has been sent 204 miles by J PitxGerald from Norton, North

6.00 ARIZONA HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5, added 1m 5f 9yds 424032 FIELD OF VISION (19) (C) Mrs A Shinbaok 6 10 (000202 MENTALASANYTHIN (6) (CO) (EF) O Haydr Jones 7 9 6 003154 ROSSEL (USA) (100 P Morresti 3 8 10 N Car 354233 LORD ADMOCRITE (S) (CD) D Moiss 8 8 8 N

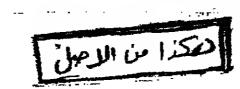
050303 RED SPECIACLE (6) P Haslam 485.... -7 declared -TEJTRIG: 7-2 Mister Aspecto, 4-1 Field of Vision, 5-1 Mentalace Lord Advocate, 11-2 Fiosting Line, 6-1 Ressel, 13-2 Red Spector

6.30 ARIZONA SELLING STAKES (CLASS £3,450 added 2YO 5f 000253 PREVER BOLF STORMER (T) 7 J Haugitan 8 11, F Lynch 1355 RIT OR MISS (7) (D) M Clarmon 8 11 A Mac

SELTING 5-2 Mt Or Miss, 12-4 Melbourne Princese, 3-1 Rever Gelf Ste 4-1 Sharaton Gel, 10-1 Where's Wally, 15-1 Wedding Meetic.

	d, 8-1 Nristal Bresce, 10-1 Dabebbasis, Evidence in Chief, 12-1 others.
3=	
	7.00 ARTHUR BALDING HANDICAP (CLASS E)
	1. 435605 MISSIER WESTSOUND (4) (CD) Miss L Pernet 4 10 0
ner am	2 4-05030 NWSSANT (4) 8 Monator 3 9 7 ST Williams 3
auı	* OUDSTIT TROPPORT REPORT (6) (C) (D)) Berry 2 9 3
_	5 030114 NUTURAL NEY (6) (CD) D Haydri Jones 3 9 0
	6 3440- STRECKAK, JUSTEER (354) O Notes 4 8 8 V Halliday 5 7 544055 RERGIS MARKER (16) E Alsten 5 8 8 Lower 7 8 246523 RETAINEY AND A Process 2 6 6
may and-	Paning 4
for CAR	BETTENS: 7-2 Tropical Beach, 4-1 Mister Westmound, Natural Key, 9-2 Pagaboy, 6-1 Patheze, 8-1 Risus Magor, 10-1 others.
	7.30 ARIZONA MAIDEN HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,800 addled 1m3f
.00)	1 4263UU CLASSIC REALITY (290 P Horry 2 0 40
.00) AII-	2 000223 GLLF OF SIAM (21) Miss S Hall 3 9 10
Or	4 060330 SCHOOL OF SCHOOLS (D.O. 1944 D. Dean McKeown 4
s by Xxx	5 40544- IN A TIZZY (324) P Hastam 3 7 11 R Markey (3) 5 9 6 HW/OD PLACK AND BUILDS WAS 3 7 11 R Markey (7) 3
olic	10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 1
348 -30) ork-	BETTING: 6-4 Culf of Siem, 7-4 in A Tazy, 7-2 Clausic Beauty, 7-1 School of Science, 33-1 Rambo's Rustring, 66-1 Stack And Bloos.
	8.00 ARIZONA CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) £3,450 added 3YO 1m 65yds
	1 644214 MILEURIN CITY (4) (IIF) J Bery 9 0
3)3	
9	4 OCCUPA DE DE CONTROL DE MASS L PERMIT 8 13 Wester 2
17 1 4 Y	A for a section of the section of th
5	SETTING: 11-4 Society GM, 3-1 Termon, 7-2 Miletrian City, 05 DE, 9-2 Vegics Lady,
29	
7) 7	8.30 ARIZONA SEVERAGES MAIDEN HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,800 added 1m 65yds.
bis.	
_	2 000024 GOOL LEE SHOY (USA) (6) R Whiteler 3 9 8 Rodenkie (7) 8
F)	4 5-00066 SHAA SPIN (S. I Provide P. B. Dean McKerry 6
94	trol 1 1 wandston 3 6 23 "
71 29	& CONTEST TANKS WITHOUT THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF THE
S) 9	9 (6324) 5520605 8400 40 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10
69 e6	8 000-600 BALLYIOSSANGE (53) N Bycon 3 7 11
DE,	STITUTE 11.4 Print Hand I and a deciseed
	Lee Story, 6-1 Pleastonn State, 7-1 Origing, 20-1 Seconds Away, 25-1 others.





A breathing space in Chechnya

The battles may be over - but will the ceasefire last? **Helen Womack** reports

Moscow - Russian and Chechen commanders were reported to have agreed to a ceasefire yesterday, the first sign that the bloody battles over Grozny might be coming to a close -

After eight days of fighting in the Chechen capital, Russian media said that a ceasefire would come into effect at noon today local time. But it was oot clear whether whether the ceasefire was intended to be permanent or merely a temporary measure to allow the evacuation of civilians and wounded. If it holds, it will be a signal victory for Alexander Lebed, Presideot Boris Yeltsin's security chief and envoy to Chechnya. The oews came after Russia's

military commander in Chechnya, General Konstantin Pulikovsky, held talks with the rebel chief of staff, Aslan Maskhadov. The meeting began in the early evening in the village of Novye Atagi, 15 miles south of the regional capital. "The issue of a ceasefire and, possibly, the mechanism for a withdrawal of units and subunits from the confrontation line are expected to be discussed," said the Interfax oews agency before the meeting began.

The teotative peace process was set in motion by General Lebed, who oo Sunday made a lightning visit to the war zone to meet Mr Maskhadov and returned to Moscow on Mooday saying he was optimistic a ceasefire could soon be arranged, However, there was no reaction from the Kremlin yesterday to his criticism of the Russian government's policy in the Caucasus, and the demands he made for sweeping powers to manage the crisis himself.

In all probability, his sharp comments, made at a press conference, will have set off bit-L ter infighting in the corridors of power. In particular, Geoeral Lebed will not have eodeared himself to the Prime Minister, Viktor Chemomyrdin, a rival even before the general accused the commission Mr Chernomyrdin heads of failing dismally in its handling of Chechnya.



the streets at will while most of

the Russian soldiers they saw

were dead ones. The toll among

servicemen is oow officially 221

ing to flee Grozny. The pro-Moscow Chechen government complained that Russian forces

were firing on civilians and ap-

pealed to the army to open a

corridor to let them out of the

burning city. "Iens of thousands of people are trapped... with-out food supplies and with a cat-

astrophic lack of medicine," it

said. The army apparently dis-

Waves of refugees were try-

killed and 766 wounded.

Russian soldiers carry a dead comrade into a safe area of Grozny during fighting on Sunday with Chechen rebels

week with the express intention

of spoiling President Yeltsin's in-

auguration celebrations, have

run rings round the far larger

aod much better equipped

crashing over Grozny as the fed-

eral forces tried to retake key

huildings in the city-centre still

Rebel information chief

Movladi Udugov, who has been

so skilled at presenting Chech-nya's case that General Lebed

himself praised him while say-

ing the Russian spokesmen

should go and "fish and pick

raspberries at their dachas",

held by the separatists.

Yesterday mortar shells were

Russian army.

escape by melting into the cent of Grozny. Eyewitnesses said rebels seemed to roam crowd of refugees. The Russian migration service said it had received 10 bil-

lion roubles (£1.3m) to cope with the new homeless. The European Commission in Brussels approved a new aid package for Chechnya, bringing the total as-sistance since the outbreak of war 20 mooths ago to nearly £29m. More than 30,000 people have died in the fighting and survivors are desperate for food and medical aid.

■ Moscow (AP) — A correspondent for Russia's largest television station was killed as he and his family tried to leave the Chechen capital during the

Ramzan Khadzhiyev, who covered the North Caucasus for the television station ORT, was shot in the head twice as he was driving out of Grozny with his wife and four-year-old son, In-dependent NTV television aired a brief interview with a passenger in the car who said it was Russian forces who opened

fire on the vehicle. The pro-government ORT suggested the rebels were behind the slaying, and Khad-zhiyev, an ethnic Chechen, had received many threats from the rebels, who accused him of a pro-Moscow bias in his reporting and of betraying his people. He was the 19th journalist to die in the 20-month-old conflict.

SIGNIFICANT SHORTS

eaders of 300 illegal immigrants fighting to have their position in France regularised said their protest was being stepped up and they would now negotiate only with President Jacques Chirac. They were speaking the day after police raided the Paris church the group has occupied for three months and removed 10 hunger-strikers "for medical checks". All have returned to the church and are continuing their fast. A "rolling hunger-strike" by "star" volunteers for 48 hours at a time has been announced, and the protest is to be extended to more cities. Mary Dejevsky - Paris

The first Filipina to admit publicly that she was a Japanese sex-slave during World War Two said that she and six other "comfort women" would accept \$18,500 (£12,300) each in compensation from a much-criticised Japanese fund. Maria Rosa Henson, 68, said she also expected to receive a letter of apology from the Japanese Prime Minister, Ryutaro Hashimoto, without which she would not accept the money. "The apology is more impor-tant to me than the money," Mrs Henson said. "Without the apology, I will not take the money. Reuter - Manila

Krista Sager, co-leader of the Greens, shocked Germany's political third force by announcing she would not seek re-election. The German Greens are Europe's the strongest environmentalist party: they have won office at federal state level and moderates hope to ally with the Social Democrats (SPD) to oust Chancellor Hel-mut Kohl's centre-right coalition in 1998 polls. Ms Sager, who belongs to the wing of the party more inclined to co-operation with the SPD, said she would focus on helping the Greens at regional level in Hamburg. Reuter - Bonn

Dulgaria's President, ministers and diplomats joined mourners at the funeral of the psychic Granny Vanga. Vanga, venerated across the Balkans and beyond for her clairvoyant and healing powers, died on Sunday aged 85 after a four-year battle against cancer. Blind from childhood, she was said to have predicted events ranging from the Second World War to the collapse of Communism and her own death. Reuter - Rupite

Police arrested three former Bangladeshi army officers in connection with the 1975 assassination of the independence leader Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Retired army colonel Farook Reehman, ex-colonel Shahriar Rashid Khan and retired major Mohammad Khairuzzaman are to face trial for murder and for rebelling against a legally-installed government. Reuter - Dhaka

A French mountaineer, Jean-Christophe Lafaille, set a world record by climbing two Himalayan peaks more than 8,000m high (26,240ft) in less than four days. Lafaille, 31, climbed Gasherbrum II, 8,035m, then Gasherbrum I, 8,068m, in the Baltoro regioo of Pakistan oo 28-31 July, Reuter - Grenoble

Bucharest's street children will train stray dogs as helpmates for the handicapped in a programme tackling two of the city's worst social problems. Initially 20 children living rough will be helped for two years to train strays which will theo be given to the hlind, the deaf and the immohile. Reuter - Bucharest

Thirty monkeys that were killed when they touched a high-voltage wire were given a mass burial by priests from the Lord Pashupatinath temple. Nepal's holiest- An official said monkeys were gods and that more ceremonies were to be performed for them today. Reuter - Kathmandu

VIDEO TAPE

A small change occurred in Certainly the Checken rebels, claimed yesterday that the septiment of a corridor bethe Kremlio yesterday with the who infiltrated Grozny last aratists controlled 75 to 80 per cause it fears rebels could Old and infirm left to suffer daily ordeal of bombardment

The people living in Chernorechive had no knowledge of any ceasefire yesterday. They came under mortar attack midmorning as planes circled over-head, stretching their nerves to

This district on the south-west edge of Grozny showed the signs of heavy bombardment from the last week of fighting.

Smashed tree branches lav in deserted streets pockmarked with mortar craters. People hung around nutside their apartment huildings, nnt venturing far into the courtvard in

case another mortar whistled in. It was noon when the latest attack began. The night had been quiet, residents said, although they still all slept in their cellars. "We heard that Moscow announced an end to air strikes hut the planes bombed again yesterday and today, just look what happened," said one Russian woman pointing at the crater and shrapnel marks gnuged in

the side of the building.
"It was a deception. They deceive us every time," she added. Civilians are still awaiting relief from war, reports Carlotta Gall in Grozny

courtyard where a second mortar fell, an old woman was killed outright and a ooe-yearnld hahy, hit in the head by shrapnel, had been taken to the hospital, residents said,

departure of President Yeltsin's

press spokesman, Sergei Medvedev, a young journalist

who, at his own request, was returning to the ORT state tele-

visioo channel where he used to

work. Lately the television has

seemed almost as restricted as

in Soviet times although one

anchorwoman, Arina Sharapo-

va. has let it be known by small

commeots that the journalists

are disgusted by the war in

Chechnya, It was probably not

accidental that, the other night, the news was followed by a

popular Caucasian cartoon

about a tiny ant outwitting a

The elderly victim lay in the cellar under white sheets as neighbours gathered to dig annther grave. The garden of an abandoned psychiatric hospital was being turned into a cemetery for the dozens whn had been killed, one woman said.
"We huried five people in a

single grave," said Khesir Dzhapkayev, a telephone engineer. He just escaped injury this time, bolting into the cellar where his family of four children and his mother were sheltering. Same 20 to 30 people were

in the bunker, a dark warren of nooks and cranoies. People ducked under water pipes, light-ing their way with matches. Mr This time, only one man was Dzhapkayev's paralysed moth-

slightly wounded, but in the next er lay no the earthen floor oo a mattress in a tiny pantry. "This is the third time we have had to live down here. It is an absolute nightmare," he said, shaking from the strain. This is not even safe - how do I know it will oot be hit with a peoetratioo bomh?"

The fear is real Less than a block away a penetration bomh had torn through every floor of an apartment building, hlasting right down into the cellar. The naly people left in Cher-norechive are, as in the early

days of the war, the old, the infirm and many Russians who, unlike the Chechens, have no family oetwork to help them. Checheo refugees were still

pouring out of this district, driving along the tram lines, crossing two dangerously precarious hridges over the Sunzha River, half patched up since they were destroyed in the first battle. Families with small children

and old womeo scrambled down a muddy bank as the men frantically pushed cars along the rails. Mortars had landed in the field beside them minutes before. A grandmother collapsed, her family in tears.

The sound of heavy artillery explosions rolled across from the centre of the city every five or 10 minutes - less intensive than in recent days, but still more or less constant. A silent procession followed:

a young man carrying a wounded, retarded boy and a group bearing a woman nn a mattress who was unconscious, her face marked by shrapnel.

Behind them the sky was

black from four fires burning in the western district where Grozny's oil refinery appears completely destroyed. The Chechen fighters mean-

while, who have the ruo of the district, said they would demand by Russia herore easing up their stranglehold on Russian positions. The war will oot end until their troops leave," said Aslan, 21, as he walked hack

MGM F-240 VIDEOTAPE 4-PACK **ALL THESE DEALS** HALF PRICE CAMCORDER TAPES



5 hours recording time.

SANYO PH200 CLOSED BACK STEREO HEADPHONES Soft cushioned TDK FE90 12 hours of HALF **VARTA** BATTERIES 10-PACK Full alkaline power. DIXONS 24 EXPOSURE 100-ISO COLOUR FILM 3-PACK

xons

There's a great deal going on

Bosnia set for imperfect poll

CHRISTOPHER BELLAMY Defence Correspondent

The Bosnian elections io a month's time will fall far short of Western democratic standards, United States officials said yesterday, as the Secretary of State Warren Christopher conferred with Nato civilian and military leaders in Brussels.
But the Nato Sceretary-

General, Javier Solana, stressed how much had been achieved in Nato-led peace implementation force (I-For1 moved into the war-torn country.

pristine conditions for these elections. This is not going to look like a town in Germany nr France ... on election day, We're not going to create these conditions in the next 31 days".

The admission came as the commander of the Nato-led

ground forces in Bosnia, Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Walker, helped defuse a coofrontation with the Bosnian Serbs who had refused to allow Nato troops to inspect part of a heavy weapons storage site as they were entitled to do under the Dayton peace agreement.
Dr Solana and General

George Joulwan, Nato's Supreme Allied Commander Europe, had visited the Bosnian Serb capital of Pale on Monday the past eight months, since the afternoon to secure formal agreement that the site could be inspected. But, as so often happens in Bosnia, it took time for A State Department the agreement to filter down to spokesman, Nicholas Burns, the commanders on the ground, said: "These are not going to be and a Nato source in Sarajevo said it "came as a surprise" to

many Serb leaders. Early yesterday morning General Walker took the new Bosnian Serb President, Biliana Playsie, in a helicopter to the arms site at Han Pijesak. 30 miles east of Sarajevo, where the of refugees from voting in their the elections.

Bosnian Serbs had refused to places of origin, as Dayton allow Nato inspectioo teams access on Monday. Nato officials said the move was, in part, to test the influence of Dr Playsic, whn replaced the indicted warcrimes suspect Radovan Kar-adzic as President. General Walker returned to Sarajevo late authorities in Bosnia and the yesterday morning, after completing the inspection.

Mr Christopher met Dr Solana and General Joulwan in Brussels, to discuss the support I-For might provide for the forthcoming elections which aim to create common institutinus for the whole of Bosnia, above the two "entities" - the Muslim-Croat Federation and the Republika Srpska. Although the Dayton peace agreement aims to maintain a unified, multi-ethnic Bosnia, in reality Bosnia is now firmly partitioned. The three factions have coosistently tried to deter and other international organ-Bosnia's hundreds of thousands

allows them to. Mr Burns said Mr Christoher would discuss this with the Presidents of Bosnia, Serbia and Croatia in Geneva today

along with the harassment of the media and the failure of local

governments of neighbouring

states to hand over indicted was

criminals for trial in the Hague Having completed the handover of large areas under the Daytoo agreement and separated the armed forces of the former protagonists, I-For's 50,000 troops are ony primarily coocerned with creating the best possible conditions for the elections. This includes opening up roads and "creating the

environment" in urban areas. Some 2,000 monitors from the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe isations are expected to oversee

PlayIndependent Fantasy Football.

Jou've seen the rest now play the best in The Independent and the Independent on Sunday. Independent Fantasy Football, supported by Philips Energy Saver Light Bulbs, brings you the first real innovation in fantasy football allowing you to pick the playing formation of your team. You can opt for a defensive strategy with five defenders, three midfielders and two strikers in a 5-3-2 formation, or go on the attack with three strikers in a 4-3-3 line-up. Complete your team with a goalkeeper and a Premiership your team with a goalkeeper and a Premiership manager and you'll be ready for kick-off. To put your title-winning team together you have a budget of £40 million to spend. It is up to you how you spend the money, with no restrictions on the number of players you can choose from any one Premiership team. Look carefully and you will find some real hargains, with Alan Shearer on sale for the fantasy price of £11.1 million!

So take up the challenge and prove your skill as a manager to win a football fan's dream prize and the opportunity to gloat over friends and colleagues well into the 1997-98 season.

PRIZES

The overall winner at the end of the season will be the entrant who has accrued more points than any other Independent Fantasy Football team in that time. Win the ultimate prize - a trip to the 1998 World Cup in France. The winner, plus companion, will see all the action of a quarter-final and a semi-final of their choice, plus the final. In addition, the highest scoring team each month will win a pair of tickets to one of England's World Cup qualifying games at Wembley.

FORMATION A. 4-4-2 4 Defenders, 4 Midfielders, 2 Strikers FORMATION B. 4-3-3
4 Defenders, 3 Midfielders, 3 Strikers
FORMATION C. 5-3-2
5 Defenders, 3 Midfielders, 2 Strikers FORMATION D. 3-5-2 3 Defenders, 5 Midfielders, 2 Strikers



Using your football knowledge decide your team formation from the following four options:

one manager from the list below, Players can only play in the positions that they are listed under and the team's total value must not exceed \$40 million. Because the position of the position of

not exceed £40 million. Remember to give your team a name.

Use our Team Selection form above right, to make a note of your team's details, then dial our registration hotline to register. Where possible, please try to use a tone telephone, although a traditional pulse telephone can be used if necessary. Make sure you follow the instructions on the phoneline carefully. At the end of your call you will be given your own special PIN number, which you must keep safe. It can be added to your Team Selection form.

HOW TO SCORE

Every time one of your players scores a goal you will be award-You are free to enter as many teams as you wish, allowing you ed four points. Four points will also be awarded for goalkeepers to try out more than one factical formation, but each team must and defenders whose team have kept a clean sheet during a match, be made as a separate entry via a separate telephone call.

Once you have chosen your formation, select your team of 10 players to fit your chosen option, plus one goalkeeper and winning team is awarded one bonus point in addition to the stan-

dard four points awarded for that goal. Each successful as-sist (a pass that, in the opinion of our team of experts, leads directly to a goal) will give a player three points. The opin-ion of our experts on this matter is final. Each player select-

ed and starting a game will be awarded one point. Players lose one point for a yellow card and three for a red card. Own goals, either scored or conceded, do not count for

The Premiership manager that you choose will be awarded three points if their real-life team win, one point if they

draw and no points if they lose.

Results will be published in The Independent every

Wednesday for all games played from the previous Monday to Sunday inclusive. They will also appear the following Sunday, in the Independent on Sunday.

Look out for transfer opportunities which will be announced during the season. Please read the Rules and Conditions carefully before making your call fully before making your call.

Team Selection Form Code Name Goalkeeper Defender 1 Defender 2 Defender 3 Defender 4 Defender 5 Midfielder 1 Midfielder 2 Midfielder 3 Midfielder 4 Midfielder 5 Striker 1 Striker 2 Striker 3 Manager PIN No.

POINT SCORES:

4 points for a goal = 4 points for a goalkeeper/defender clean sheet ■ 3 points for a successful assist ■ 1 point when a player is selected and plays # 1 point for a winning goal = 3 points for a manager win, 1 point for a draw Lose I point for a yellow card Lose 3 points for a red card

Register today, call: UK 0891-252-244 (tone) UK 0891-252-234 (pulse) Republic of Ireland: 1550 131 553

UK calls cost 39p per minute cheap rate and 49p at all other times. Republic of Ireland calls cost 58p per minute including VAT at all times.

Maximum call length 6.5 minutes.

CODE	PLAYER	TEAM	VALUE (£m)	CODE	PLAYER	TEAM	VALUE (£m)	CODE	PLAYER	TEAM	VALUE (£m)	CODI	PLAYER	TEAM	VALUE (£m)	CODE	PLAYER	TEAM	VALUE (£m)
300	GOALK Seaman	EEPET ARS	<u>XS</u>	457 458 459 460	Watson Unsworth Hottiger Hinchcliffe	EVE EVE EVE	2.7 3.0 2.2 1.9	553 554 555	Reeves Thorn Thatcher	WIM WIM WIM	1.8 1.8 2.7	687 688 689 690	Woan Bart-Williams Stone Genmill	NOT NOT NOT	3.4 3.6 5.0 3.0	856 857 858 859	Claridge Heskey Robins Cantona	LEI LEI LEI MU	3:0 2.8 2.0 8.1
303 304 305	Bosnich Flowers Kharine	AV BLA CHE	4.0 5.2 3.7	463 464 465	Jobson Kelly Wetherall	LEE LEE LEE	2.7 3.6 3.5		MIDFI	ELDEF	RS .	693 694 695	Parker Taylor Izzett	LEI LEI LEI	2.5 1.6 2.1	860 863 864	Scholes Cole Fjortoft	MU MU MUD	5.0 6.2 3.1
306 307 308	Hitchcock Ogrizovic Filan	COA	1.5 2.2 1.5	466 467 468	Dorigo Pemberton Walsh	LEE LEI	3.2 1.2 2.2	600 603 604	Merson Platt Parlour	ARS ARS ARS	4.4 4.8 2.4	696 697 698	Waddle Blinker Jones	SW SW SW	2.7 2.2 2.0	865 866 867	Ravanelli Barmby Beardsley	MID MID NEW	8.0 6.7 4.4
309 330	Southali Martyu	EVE LEE LIV	3.0 3.3 4.7	469 470	Grayson : Whitiow	IEI LEI LEI	2.2 1.2	605 606	Helder Hillier	ARS ARS	3.7 - 1.5	699 700 703	Hyde Magilton Venison	SW SOT SOT	L8 24 2.7	868 869 870	Asprilla Ferdinand Saunders	NEW	7.4 8.6
333 335 336	James, Poole ; Hoult	DER	1.5 1.6	473 474 475	Watts Babb Jones	LIV	1.6 3.7 2.7	607 608 609	Taylor Townsend Drapce	AV AV AV	1.9 3.1 4.1	704	Heancy M Gray	SOT SUN.	2.2 3.0 2.7	873	Roy Campbell	NOT NOT NOT	5.2 4.8 3.1
337 338 339	Schmeichel Walsh Smicek	MU MID NEW	5.5 3.0 3.7	477 478	Wright Ruddock Scales	LIV	2.8 3.0 4.4	630 633 634	Donis Wilcox Ripley	BLA BLA BLA	3.0 3.7 - 3.0	706 707 708	Rae Agnew Anderton	SUN SUN TOT	6.7	875 876 877	Booth Hirst Bright	SW SW SW	4.4 5.5 2.5 7.0
340 343 344	Hislon Crossley Wright	NEW NOT NOT	3.7 2.7 1.3	479 480 483	Harkness Neville (G) Neville (P)	LIV MU MU	2.2 3.7 3.7	635 636 637	Sherwood Flitcroft Gullit	BLA BLA CHE	3.4 3.0 4.4	709 730 733	Fox Howells Signar	TOT	5.6 3.2 3.0	878 879 880	Le Tissier Shipperley Watson	SOT SOT SOT	7.0 3.7 2.2
345 346 347	Beasant Pressman Coton	SOT SW SUN	1.8 2.7 1.8	484 485 486	Irwin Pallister May	MU MU MU	4.1 4.9 3.0	638 639 640	Di Matteo Wise Newton	CHE CHE CHE	3.7 2.4	734 735 736	Williamson Dumitrescu Hughes	WH WH WH	3.6 3.7 2.7	883 884 885	Kelly Stewart Sheringham	SUN SUN TOT	3.7 2.2 2.1 2.3 7.4
348 349 350	Walker Miklosko Sullivari	TOT WH: WIM	3.4 3.0 1.8	488 489	Vickers Pearson Whyte	MID MID MID	22 22 22	643 644 645	Peacock Salako Telfer	COV	2.1 2.4 1.8	737 738 739	Moncur Bishop Jones	WIM	27 3.8 2.8 3.1	886 887 888	Armstrong Rosenthal Futre	TOT TOT WH	5.9 2.1 4.0
	DEFE	NDERS	<u>s</u>	490 493 494 495	Cox Albert Howey	MID NEW NEW	25 41 3.7	646- 647 648 649	Richardson McAllister Jess	COV	2.4 3.6 2.2	740 743 744	Earlie Ardicy Fear	WIM	20 20	889 890 893 894	Raducioiu Dowie Holdsworth		-5.17 3.3 4.5
403 403 404	Dixon Winterburn Bould	ARS ARS ARS	3.1 3.1 3.0	496 497 498	Peacock Barton Beresford Cooper	NEW NEW NEW NOT	3.0 3.3 2.2 3.0	650 653 654	Simpson Asanovic Van Der Laar Ebbrell	DER DER DER EVE	1.2 2.2 1.6. 1.9 –		STRIK	ĒŔS	_	895	Goodman Ekoku	WIM	3.2 2.7
405 406	Adams Keown	ARS ARS	5.3 3.7 3.0	499 500 503	Chettle Jerkan Lyttle	NOT NOT NOT	2.4 2.9 1.8	655 656 657	Kanchelskis Parkinson Smart	EVE EVE	6.7 1.8 2.5	800 803 804	Bergkamp Wright Hartson	ARS ARS	7.0 7.2 3.7	900		AGERS	
408 409 430	Southgate: McGrath Ehiogu	AV AV AV	5.2 — 3.0 3.0	504	Pearce Monkou Dodd	NOT SOT SOT	3.4 2.5	658 659 660	Grant Bowyer Wallace	EVE LEE	2.2 3.0 1.8	806 807 808	Yorke Milospic Johnson	AV AV AV	6.7 4.4 3.5	903 904 905	Keegan Ferguson Evans Rioch	MU LIV ARS	8.0 9.0 7.0 6.0
433 434 435	Wright Tiler Berg	AV AV BLA	3.4 1.2 3.4	507 508 509	Benali Charlton Nolan	SOT SOT SW	22 22 29 1.9	663 664 665	Palmer Barnes Redknapp	LEE	3.0 5.2	- 809 - 830 834	Josephine T. Shearer Sutton	AV NEW- BLA	24 7 11.1 3.7	906 987 908	Royle Harford Francis	EVE BEA TOT	5.5 5.5
436 437 438	Le Saux Coleman Hendry	BLA BLA BLA	4.0 3.7 4.4	530 533 534	Atherton Walker Stefanovic	SW SW SW	1.9 2.5 1.6	666 667 668	McManaman McAteer Thomas	LIV LIV LIV	5.9 3.7 3.0	835: 836 837	Vialli Hughes Spencer	CHE CHE CHE	8.1 4.4	909 930 933	Wilkinson Redknapp Gullit	LEE WH CHE	5.0 3.5 3.3 4.5 3.3
439 440 443	Kenna Duberry Petrescu	BLA CHE CHE	1.9 3.0 3.0	535 536	Mélville Kubicki	SUN SUN	2.2 1.2	669 670 673	Giggs Beckham Keane	MU MU MU	7.4 5.2 6.5	838 839 840	Dublin Whelan Ndlovu	COV	2.5 4.7 5.2 4.3	934 935 936	Clark Robson Reid	NOT MID	5.0
445 445 444	Phelan Lebeouf Sinclair	CHE	19	537 538 539 540	Ball Campbell Calderwood Austin	SUN TOT TOT TOT	3.7 2.9	674 675 676	Butt . Sharpe Juninho	MU MU MID	4.5 3.0 5.9	843 844 845	Gabbiadini Ward Sturridge	DER DER DER	3.5 2.5 3.0 6.7	937 938 939	Souness O'Neill	SUN SOT LEI	2.0 2.3 1.8
447 448	Minto Daish	CHE	22 13 27 22	543 544	Edinburgh Mabbutt	TOT TOT WH	2.2 3.7 2.9 2.2 1.6 2.7 3.5 3.7	677 678 679	Emerson Hignett Moore	MID MID MID	4.4 2.5 1.2	846 847 848	Ferguson Amokachi Rideout	EVE EVE EVE	6.7 3.7 3.0	940 943	Smith Kinnear Atkinson	DER WIM COV	1.8 2.0 2.2 4.0
449 450 453	Shaw Burrows Stimac	DER :	3.3	546 ·	Dicks Bilic Reiper	WH WH	3.7 2.7	680 683 684	Lee Batty Gillespie	NEW NEW NEW	3.6 4.5 4.0	849 850 853	Yeboah Rush Deane	LEE LEE LEE	5.9 5.2 3.0	944 945	Little Pleat	AV SW	5.0 3.5
454 455 456	Powell Wassail Short	DER DER EVE	1.8 2.2 3.0		Hall Bowen Pearce	WH WH	27 27 22 22 22	685 686	Ginola Clark	NEW	4.2 3.0	854 855	Collymore Fowler	LIV	8.1 9.5				

RULES AND CONDITIONS
I Chile culties made via The ladgements are supported in the Sunday Farmon is within represent current ability and in the Sunday Farmon is within the control of the 1998 World Cup in the discission strained in the substitute control of the Properties of the 1998 World Cup in the discission strained out of the Properties of the 1998 World Cup in the discission strained out of the Properties of the 1998 World Cup in the discission strained out of the Properties of the 1998 World Cup in the discission strained out of the Properties of the 1998 World Cup in the discission strained out of the Properties of the 1998 world in the Independent in Sunday.

I Entire struct control of the Properties of the 1998 world in the Independent in Sunday.

I Entire struct control of the Properties of the 1998 world in the Independent in Sunday.

I Entire struct control of the Properties of the 1998 world in the Independent in Sunday.

I Entire struct control of the Properties of the 1998 world in the Independent in Sunday.

I Entire struct control of the Properties of the 1998 world in the Independent in Sunday.

I Entire struct control of the Properties of the 1998 world in the Independent in Sunday.

I Entire struct control of the Properties of the 1998 world in the Independent in Sunday.

I Entire struct control of the Properties of the 1998 world in the Independent in Sunday.

I Entire struct control of the Properties of the 1998 world in the Independent in Sunday.

I Entire struct control of the Properties of the 1998 world in the Independent in Sunday.

I Entire struct control of the Properties of the 1998 world in the Independent in Sunday.

I Entire struct control of the Properties of the 1998 world in the Independent in Sunday.

I Entire struct control of the Properties of the 1998 world in the Independent in Sunday.

I Entire struct control of the Properties of the 1998 world in the Independent in Sunday.

I Entire struct control of the Properties of the 1998 world in the Independent in Sunday.

I Ent

عكذا من الملصل

Whistle up a world of wide horizons

SO YOU WANT TO ... BE A **FOOTBALL** REFEREE

By Mike Richards

A passport to paradise is one view. A ticket to a torrent of abuse is more likely to be the nther. But love them or loathe them, football needs referees.

Newcastle United might spend £15m on a new striker, but, however much the Gallowgate faithful rant and rave at his decislons - and it is always "his" in the Premiership - if there is no man in black, green, blue or whatever they are forced to wear these days, there is no match. And as there are a lot of matches every

week in Britain, referees are always in

"You can always have a game of football without a referee, but football depends on referees to be administered properly and to have competitions, so we play a vital role," aid Peter Willis, the president of the Eng-Referees' Association (RA). We are always looking for more. There are 45,000 registered in clubs in England and

nost field more than two teams each week, that is more than 100,000 sides." There are 32,500 referees in England. About 5,500 are recruited every year, but he total stays remarkably static. You can start young (though only those over 16 can referee adult matches), and continue un-

All it takes to qualify is a 12-hour course mastering the 17 laws of the game, with an hral and written exam at the end. The courss are administered by the local branches of the RA spread across Britain and are eing run all the time.

"We have no particular bias towards anyone," Willis said. "We have every walk of life in the world of referees and we do not even think about anything like ethnic background. If you are good enough, we will take

So what makes a good referee? "In the prodern age, if you want to progress, you have to be fit. You need man-management skills, a love of the game and the ability to decide 'is it or isn't it'. Those who first come along to the course usually get a shock. They do not appreciate that the laws are simple. Other people make them complicated.

Willis admits some are put off the critirism and abuse from players, managers and fans, but insists it is not an important facfor. "If a supporter does not agree with you, they will tell you. That's a fact of life. It would be awful if there was no one shoutno time for it, but it is nowhere near as bad as people make out."

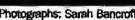
Just as on the promotion pyramid for clubs, referees can climb the ladder. If you pass the initial course, you become a class three official and referee at the lowest

All referees are marked by the teams in the matches they officiate and if the marks are good enough at the end of a season, they are promoted, eventually becoming a class one and moving up the leagues, each time running the line at a higher standard before refereeing there. In theory, a referee who qualifies this season could be running out in the Premiership in seven or eight years. From there, the world is

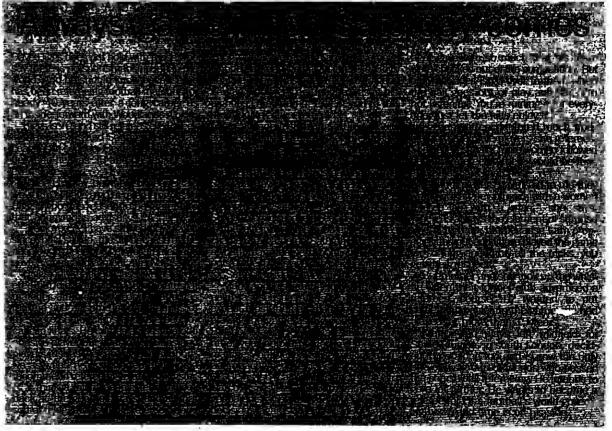
"There is football in South America, Asia. Australia and Europe. In this world of football we have today, referees from England take charge of games in all competitions. said Willis, whn refereed in the Football League for 28 years. "It is a passport to world travel. A passport to paradise. If I was



Dave Higgs, 70 (above), has been a referee for 37 years. Merk Savage, 15, and his mother, Liz (below), both spend their weekends taking charge on the pitch







JUST THE TICKET: a weekly guide to what's on where for the spectator as Sanderson and the Olympic happastrion broas medaltist, Denise Lewis, will compete in the juvelin while Colin Jackson and Tony Jerest take on the Olympic champer on Alem Johnson. Tickets are priced at \$12 for authlis and £1 for chicken. Techphone the box office at 6 statisfreed, on CUS1-478 59755, for additional information. POOTRALL: Mondey: FA Carring President Liverpoot v Asserter (8.0), Teachers (9.0), Asserter (9.0), As

PACING (Flat meetings in capitale): To-day: BEVERLEY Cun £12; Lunor Cub (16 § 21-your-olds) £8; Tattervalls £8; Siver long £3; Course Enclosure £2; Pionic area £2 or £2 per car, plus £2 per occupant, £3.0, HAMILTON: Cub £12; Crandestand åad Poddock £7 I£4 for QAPs, disabled åstudents, £10 for couplest; accompa-sed under-16s free all emclosums (6,0). \$ALSBURY: Members £12.50; Tathematis £2; Course Enclosum £4 isocomparaed un-der-18s, free all enclosurest. (2.15). \$ANDOWN: Cub & Gondstand (combined £12; Junior Cub 116-25yrs £10; Park £4, £45; Tomorrown BEVERLEY: as Yes-ferdon, (2,0). \$ALSBURY: as Yes-ferdon, (2,0). \$ALSBURY: as Yes-terdon, (2,0). \$ALSBURY: as Yes-terdon, (2,0). \$ALSBURY: as Yes-terdon, (2,0). \$ALSBURY: as Yes-ferdon, (2,0). \$ALSBURY: as Yes-Factorial State of the Second State \$ALSBURY: SIO: Park JA. 15.35. Newton Abbot: Tat-igsalls £8.50. Course £4. Accumparaed under: 165 free. (5.50). Friday: GATTER-EX Cub £11; Tamersalls £7; Course £2.50. Ander: 165 free into all onclosures). (1.55). POLICESTONE: Cub £12 (under-ligs free); Tamersalls £8.50. Pictuc Park £4 per car, plus £4 for each accupant. £2.01. HAYDOCK Courty Stand £14; Tat-gresalls £8; Newton Stand £3.50 (OAPs lagt once in Lauteralls and Newton Stand). £4.01. MAYBOCK Courty Stand £3.50 (OAPs lagt once in Lauteralls and Newton Stand). E.JOJ. NEWBURY: Members £13 Uluniors up to 17 years freel: Tercersals £8; Sai-ter Rog £3 10APs half pncer. 12.101, SOUTHWELL: Cub £12; Tuttersalts £6 owls: Tomorrow: Yomen's World Out-or Championship (Learnington Spa).

Figure 11: Friday: Nationwide League: Stanchester City v loswich (7.45).

This weekend

Gotter Lawy

FOOTBALL: See Weekend Fishures and Pools
Guide (page four) and Pick of the Day,
RUGBY LEAGUE: Stones Super League:
Castelon'd Paris: London Brancos v Wignt,
Helifax Stardent World Cape England v
France (3.0); Scotland v Japan (5.30). RUGBY UNION: Durbleme Checity in-ternational: Scotland v Barbarians (Aur-rantield, 3.0). Telephone Murroyfield on 01.31-346 5000 for further details. BQUESTRIAN: Derby meeting (#sckstead).
GOUF: Women's British Open (Woburn).
RACING: UNROFIELD: Nembors E.13., Tatsessals: £9; Silver Ring; £5. £5. £5. £5. £8.
BURY: Membors E.15. Dunions up to 17 yearsfree!: Tattersals: £10; Saler Ring; £3 ctAPshalf proce; £2. N. REPORE: COU £12: Tattersals: £5. Silver Ring; £4. Course £2 (accompanied under-16s free all enclosures).
£2. £5. WOLVERHAMPOINI: Cub. £15:
Teutresalls: £6 (DAP members of Domond
Club. £4]; Yowang Restaurant £25.90 inchaing entrance and meal. £7.01. Bangor:
Paddock; £8; Course £4 (L70). Bangor:
Paddock; £8; Course £4. £2.
Startished: Cub. £12:
Totorsalls: £8: Course £4. (2.20).
BOWLS: Women's World Outdoor Champi-EQUESTRIAN: Derby meeting thickstead). BOWLS: Women's World Outdoor Champi-onship (Learnington Spa).

oranja (Learningani apa).
MOTOR SPIRT: Britan Superbile Cham-ponerny (Mochill).
SPEEMAN: Promier Longue (three match-es): Conference Longue (one match). Sur Knockout Cap, quarter-finel first leg-Swindon v Exeter. GRICKET: Tetley's Challenge Series: Es-sex v Palustan (Chelmstord). Other Match:

Sunday FOOTBALL: FA Carting Premierable: Southernson v Chelsea (4.0). Nation-wide Langue First Division: Birmingham City v Crystal Palace (1.0). Second Di-vision: Shrawsbury Town v Wycombe Warderers (3.0).

Warderers (3.0).

RUGEY LEAGUE: Stennes Super League:
Bradiond v Hairfast Leeds v Workington; St.
Heters v Sneffield. Plant Division: Devolution
v Waterfield; Half v Featherstanne, Kogdiey
v Wotness; Satlord v Baster; Whiterswen v
Rochaste, Section Division: Brankley v Ooncaster; Hull K R v Leigh; Hunslet v Carlisle;

PICK OF THE WEEK SATURDAY/Footbell

FA Carling Premiership: Wimbledon v Manchester United Selhurst Park, Crystel Palace.

The nation cannot seem to get enough. The memories of the re-cent European Championship still remain fresh in the mind and have only served to wet the national appetite for further-competition. After British clubs invested millions of pounds in many of the world's finest players during the close season, the posturing ends as competitive football begins again.

The Premiership champions, Manchester United, travel south to London for their first fixture of the new season. Their squad has been strengthened by foreign signings Karel Poborsky and Jordi Cruyff and, under the captaincy of Eric Cantona, will again set the standard for the rest of the Premiership to follow.

Alex Fenguson has spent in excess of £7m on new players during the summer. Their opponents, Wimbledon, will never be able to match that financial outlay but will relish the opportunity to n addition to a full Pramiership programme, the newly named

An evolution to a trainmentary programme, the newsy harmed Nationwide Leagues also commence this weekend providing enough football to satisfy the nation's appetite.

New to get there: The ground is altusted 10 minutes well every from Safrant && station. Insite will run around every 20 minutes from London' Metric 89 senior. Telephone 89 on 0.271-528 5200 for deep fines and commence.

Admission prioss range from 6.12-630 New feet below were swellable to the glinder of public of the time of going to press. Telests remain for Mathidaton FC maintains and sesson teles holders. Telephone Safrant Pair Box office on 0.181-771-8841. For additional going information, Not off is et 3pm.

Pressot v York; Swirten v South Wales, Hal-lian, Student World Cup: Australia v Wales (3.0); United States v Ireland (8.0). GOLF: Wastobix Women's Brosh Open

RACING: BRIGHTON: Club £12 (accompanied under 16s free); Tattersals £8; Si-

paned under 16s treet; Tattersals 12s, Saver Ring £4 (nr. £4 per carl. (2-30). POMTERFACT: Cuth £12; Paddeck £8; Saver Ring £3.60 (2-15).

CYCLING: Levels brigarrational Classic. The world's top read rooms flock to Leeds this weekend led by Tour de France wither Boarne Res. England's most importunit road race of the year will also feature the finest domestic road racers as British Chympic medalists, Mass Scanshir and Chine Boardman, will also compete. Larger crowls are expected story the 145-mile noute through the city of Leeds and neuroly Wast Yarishne accessor. Admission is free for apoptations. Telephorne the Leeds International Hopking on 0113 247 8372.

CRICKET: AXA Equity & Law Languer De-byshire v Noting sanshire (Desby): Counse-terstone v Yorkshire (Brissol); New Somerner (Centerbury): Lancasture v Hampshire (Centerbury): Lancasture v Hampshire (Centerbury): Warwickshire v Glemorgen (Edgleston): MOTOR SPORT): International Touring Car Champshoughly (Solvestone). British Sa-pertition Champshoughly (Motorial):

EQUESTRIAN: Derby meeting (Hicksteen). **Next week** ATHLETICS: Monday: Bupa Challenge in-ternational meeting (Gareshead). Unford Chaute wit make his Gord and final ap-pearance for British at the Bupa Challenge against a select American team, The fastert man on earth, and new Olympic champi-ni, the Careadan Donovan Baley will also run in the 100m making sure treat Christie's last race will be of the highest standard. Tes-

Plan ahead The £9m velofroms in Manchester was opened in 1994 by the Princess Royal and will be the cycling venue for the 2002 Commonwealth Games. Later this month it hosts the 1996 World Track Cycling Championships. Made of Sibenan pine, the main track measures 250 metres in length and is Britain's first purpose-built indoor

RUCEY LEAGUE: Topoday: Halifax Student World Cup: England v Scotland (7.0).

racing track. The competition consists of 12 track disciplines for men and women.
Highly charged sprinting and sepping pursuit races will all feature in addition to points racing. For the first time nations will have to qualify vis the World Cusp Series which concludes in June. As hosts Britain receive automatic en-

try to the event. The rest of the lineup is likely to feature competitors from as far afield as Argentine, Netherlands and Trinidad.

The recent successes of Chris-Boardman, (in the Tour de France and the Olympic Games) and his continuing rivatry with Greene Obrea have increased demand for Chris Boardman will be attempting

chins Boardman will be attempting to consolidate his position as Britain's premier cyclist while Obnee will be eager to defend his 4,000 metres title after a disappointing formation. Tickets are now selling fest for the first two days of competition, when Obree and Boardman are likely to race one another. In addition to this intriguing domestic bettie, the event will also feature many of the world's finest cyclists fresh

The Nethonal Cycling Cardos, Manchester Velocitories, Stuart Street, Manchester M11. The versus is 15 minutes by car from Plocadily rathery section in Manchester city cardos. The route to the velocitorie a signed on all major rouds into the city and has access for the disabled.

Permittin day (blast: 510, concessions funder 15 å over 60) £3; Standard day (blast: 510, concessions funder 15 å over 60) £3; Standard day (blast: 525, concession £4. Prie-day: £35, concession £4. Prie-day: £35, Editorial Geologie Centres (161: 230 2307/2308) for further briefs engulstes. Stoning form are availables from the Nadorial Groffing Centre for those purchasing by fast or costs.

Details of forthcoming events with information on tickets and venues should be sent to: The Sports Desk, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL. Pax:

Compiled by Alister Morgan

Like the MP for Leeds Central, I ... too watched the Headingley Test match from the Western Terrace, albeit on "well-behaved" Friday -

your correspondent's description of the second-day crowd. Any sug-gestion that this section of the ground was a hot-bed of racist unrest is far removed from the truth. Two things seemed to charge the atmosphere and upset the stewards: alcohol and, curiously, Mexican waving. The chief wave-raiser was

summarily ejected from the ground

for his antics and the bar closed to punish his waving minions. As far the alcohol abuse goes, drink it. The most striking motif on the advertising hoardings and on the England players' shirts was for Tetley Bitter. With this overt encouragement to drink the sponsor's brew coupled with the bar opening even before the start of play, what atmosphere were they really expecting? Maybe the TCCB officials should be sponsored by Vir-

gin for their extreme naïvety.
ANDREW ROSE Hellifield, North Yorks

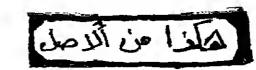
You report [Olympic athletes face ban, 6 August] that only two track and field athletes in Atlanta have been caught using steroids. Does anyone in the International Olympic Committee seriously imagine that this comes within a million miles of indicating the truth about

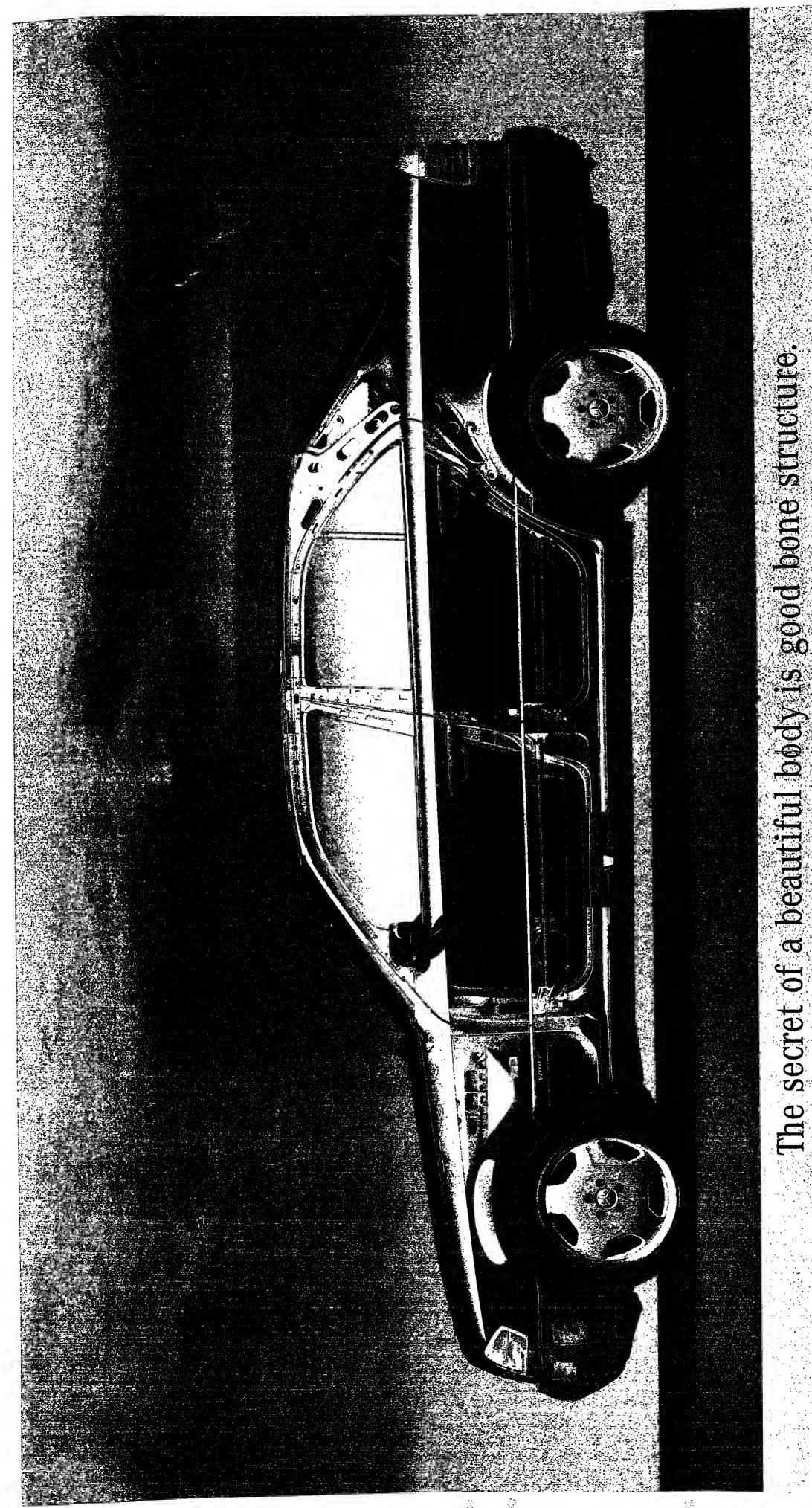
drug use at the Olympics? The difference between gold

and nowhere in some Olympic track events can be measured in tenths of a second. For the average athlete, that's the difference between wealth, fame and the adulation of his contemporaries, and a lifetime of anonymity. I must say, if I were 40 years younger and blessed with athletic ability, I might well have a sbot at the old stanozolol myself, particularly if I the Test and County Cricket Board were convinced that my rivals were clearly wants to have its pint and on the stuff. What your report suggests to me is that drug testing is merely cosmetic, a device to convince the public the sport is clean.

It's time the media and the authorities admitted that: a) the huge rewards now available to top athletes make drug use inevitable; and b) the tests are only catching a small fraction of the culprits. What the IOC ought to do, if they want to avoid accusations of largescale hypocrisy, is make the use of drugs permissible. Although whether Britain would excel in that kind of contest is open to question. MIKE FOX Edgbaston, Birmingham

Letters should be marked "For publication" and coutain daytime and evening telephone numbers They should be sent to Sports Editor, The Independent, I Canada Square, London E14 5DL They may be edited for reasons of space.





'ul body is good bone structure. The secret of a beautil

Our photograph gives a glimpse under the What you are looking at is part of its safety structure, it is constructed with high-strength

skin of a Mercedes C-class.

That helps prevent the effects of ageing and contributes to its unusually long life.

steel and welded with high-strength joints.

than cheaper metals.

And it not only protects you and your family Look a little deeper and you will find sliver of Evên the paintwork (in a choice of seventaen They remove any traces of grease more in an accident. It makes the body of the Mercedes end gold. We use them for the contacts in the colours) is more than cosmette. For the metallic thoroughly than anything else we have found.

C-class unusually firm and rigid.

Put all these things together and you will They are more efficient and far more reliable ... And before we apply the foundation we

see why a Mercedes lasts so long and keeps its looks so long. Though we think in terms of clean the base metal with ostrich feathers.

decades, we work to an accuracy of 0.01mm That is less than the thickness of your skin.

Mercedes-Benz

Engineered like no other can.

نعكذا من الاحل

Our shield against a gun culture

he Conservative majority on the Commons home affairs committee, which does not anyway a great track record in sophistical judgement, yesterday produced e of its most perfunction; and incomplete the control of the common specifically targeted on Conservative and its common specifically targeted on have a great track record in sophisticated judgement, yesierday produced one of its most perfunctory and inept reports yet. However, the MPs' glib and complacent conclusion brought the gun lobby out in its true colours: the Dunblane parents, we learnt, were a "screaming moh" who are trading on sympathy and working to maintain the shows that gun killings in the United moral high ground.

Among all the opinions expressed in this inevitably charged argument, that attempt by shooting enthusiasts to blame the row on the victims of the Dunhlane massacre - the slaughter of 16 children and a teacher with legallyheld and licensed weapons - was the most contemptible. So much for the dispassionate and rational debate that the gun lobby claims it wants to invoke. The plain truth, as it knows, is that it is fighting the steepest of uphill battles to get public and political opinion on its side.

That is why the Shooters' Rights Association, the trade association for gunsmiths and distributors, has turned to the gimmick – for it can be little more of threatening to sue the Central Scotland police force for giving Thomas Hamilton a gun licence. The threat allows the association to mount the argument that millions of pounds in gun

MPs. Attempts have been made to throw doubt on studies tending to show a link between gun ownership and gun homicides. That includes States, where the gun culture is entrenched, are more than 50 times higher than in the UK; for those involving handguns the figure is 150 times higher.

The main aim of the lobbying exercise to obscure the core issue - namely, whether inconvenience for gun enthusiasts and a slimmed-down gun industry is a price worth paying to reduce the chances of further mass murder.

And what of the Tories on the home affairs committee? They have lived up to their growing reputation for either second-guessing what ministers or the establishment or the Conservative Party is likely to want to hear, or for creating a fall-back position for the Government if things get sticky. Not for the first time, there is a suspicion of supposed party loyalty over-riding the duty of impartial analysis. Given the adverse reaction from even some Tory colleagues, they have seriously



ing oral evidence on a single day, they not only rejected a total or partial ban on handguns, but also the less draconian compromise that handguns be stored centrally at shooting clubs and that possession of assembled handguns

be permitted only at licensed premises.

The nub of their reasoning appears to be that, since any proposed restrictions would not stamp out illegal possession of handguns, and since lawful and unlawful access to shotguns or manually loaded rifles would con-

misread the political wind. After tak- tinue, further controls would have little practical value. They throw in, for good measure, the notion that mass killers would simply resort to other methods, such as bombs, or poison gas.

All that is beside the point. No one is suggesting that the possession of illegal guns - invariably the case with firearms used by criminals - is other than a matter for serious concern and action in its own right. That has not prevented successive tightening of gun laws from the earliest controls in

the wake of the Hungerford massacre of 1987, banned many of the most dangerous weapons, such as self-loading rifles and semi-automatic shotguns. Are the MPs really saying that the 1988 measure was misconceived and unnecessary? The reality is that it did not go far enough.

The goal should be dramatically to

reduce the number of guns in private ownership. The outlawing of all handguns except single-shot competition pistols, to be stored at licensed club pre-mises, would go a long way to achieving that, and would not outlaw pistol shooting as a sport for those who want to par-ticipate in it. Lord Cullen and the Government should settle for nothing less.

Of course, it would still be possible for criminals to acquire revolvers and use them. No set of controls is ever going to be watertight. But it would make it much harder for a madman to wander off on a shooting spree with a small armoury under his jacket.

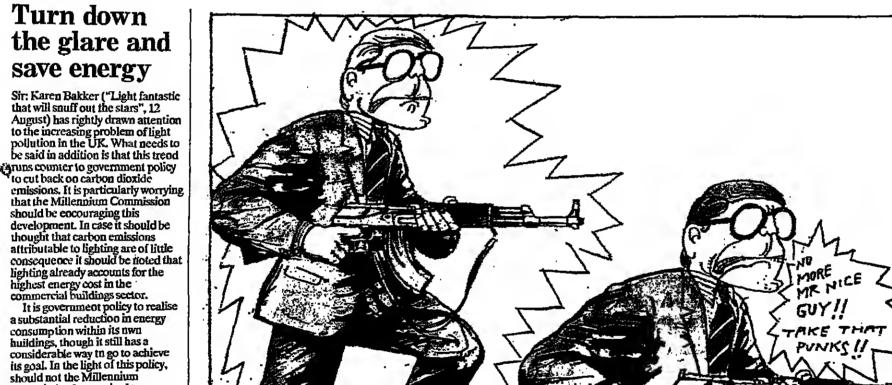
Handguns are primarily designed to shoot people - they are only incidentally a sporting weapon. If confined to sport, held only under lock and key in properly licensed gun clubs, they will pose little threat to the rest of us; only when kept and traded illegally would they pose a problem. If we want to stall the development of a gun culture in the 1824 Vagrancy Act to the 1988 Britain, then we should bun the pri-

Firearms (Amendment) Act, which, in vate, domestic possession of all handguns. It is not only simple - it is also popular, and it will work. It passes all the best tests for effective legislation to cure an obvious social ill. There should be no party political argument - just a straight, across-the-board commitment to get on with it.

Why the Slowgo is a no-no

The Greenpeace Slowgo (originally a Renault Twingo) is an attempt to show how much lighter and cheaper it could be to run a popular European car. By fitting a family car with the size of ngine used only by medium-paced gokarts in Britain, the pressure group has doubled its fuel consumption and halved its machismo. This goes against almost everything the British want and expect from their cars. Not only is the engine smaller and more expensive, the creature comforts are 10 years out of date. The windows - imagine! - are wound by hand. No bull bars for sweeping children out of the way. Top speed is only 20mph more than is legal on motorways. Anyone would think it was designed as a means of transport, rather than an expression of the owner's personality and station in life. It will never catch on.

• LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •



Commission be required to demand evidence of energy saving in all the construction enterprises it supports? As a first step, all bidders should be required to submit projects to the Government's own Energy Design Advice Scheme, funded by the DTI. This would at least ensure that projects met reasonable energy conservation criteria in basic design terms. Professor PETER F SMITH Chairman, Environment and Energy Committee Royal Institute of British Architects

Sir: You are right to be concerned about light pollution, but I feel you are targeting the wrong causes. The light flooding the country in

your photograph comes from badly designed sports field lighting, overlit car parks, widespread use of light fittings with poor optical control and (probably most significantly) light reflected from light-coloured road surfaces. These are the real problem, not a few floodlighting schemes like Croydon Skyline. Sensitive floodlighting schemes

designed by skilled professionals, using quality lighting equipment, enhance our enjoyment of architecture and have minimal environmental impact. Most of the complaints registered in the Institution of Environmental lealth Officers survey cited by Dr Baddiley were about intrusive glare from domestic security lights. Strictly, this is a problem of light trespass, not light pollution. MARK SAUNDERS

E-mail: mark.saunders@ldms.co.uk Sir: Your article somewhat misrepresents the thrust of the Croydon Skyline Lighting Project and the environmental benefits

that would flow from it. Croydon Skyline is underpinned by urban lighting strategies with the aim of eliminating light pollution. Croydon is breaking new ground in holistic lighting strategies covering safety, security, energy consumption and light pollution. Skyline is a project with public and economic benefit which will be achieved with minimal environmental cost. We are researching powering Skyline using energy generated from household

We have had discussions with crime prevention officers and the community to establish priority areas for lighting improvements. The council's street lighting programme has the objective of eliminating the legacy of poor quality lighting polluting the night sky by replacing outdated fittings with more energy-

efficient sources that have a downward-only lighting coefficient.

A unique feature of the Skyline
Project is that we are seeking the involvement of the Croydon Astronomical Society as a member of the board of trustees controlling the project.
PHILIP GOODWIN Director of Planning London Borough of Croydon

Subsidies kill rural jobs

Sir: The European Common Agriculture Policy has bad a threefold effect in creating rural unemployment ("The golden harvest is over", 12 August). The subsidies, in being linked to level of production and size of operation, have encouraged increased mechanisation and chemical-based farming - termed "more efficient" because it uses fewer people. The subsidies also led to loss of farms as they became amalgamated into larger ones. In addition, land and therefore labour, was "set aside" in a misjudged attempt to reduce the over-production the subsidies promoted.

The social welfare and economic costs on regional and local, rural and urban, levels have been high. Yet we must not assume this trend is inevitable and expect other businesses and industry to fill a few rural labour gaps. Rather, the direction should be towards less intensive, safer and, more locallybased food production systems, encouraged through positive incentives, advice and education. Fiscal measures such as lowering the cost of labour (income tax and National Insurance) and increased

costs of inputs such as energy and chemicals could add to a package of rural employment and environmental benefit. VICKI HIRD

MAJOR SPELLS IT OUT

TO THE GUN LOBBY!

Sustainable Agriculture Food and Environment Alliance London SW1

Sir: The introduction of set-aside did indeed supply a much needed lifeline for wildlife ("Cereals gain as wildlife loses", 12 August). For birds in particular, set-aside provided winter stubble to feed on and nesting cover in the spring. The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds believes that the reduction of the area of set-aside for the 96/97 season to just 5 per cent is a serious worry because we expect it to cause the present declines in farmland birds to continue - the skylark population has plummeted by 58 per cent in the last 25 years.

Arable farmers are currently receiving vast amounts of money in subsidies with only 7 per cent being paid to farmers to manage the land for conservation. It is regrettable that during the life of set-aside few steps have been taken to ensure that its environmental benefits are retained for the long term. It is crucial that such action is taken now.

The Ministry of Agriculture has recently consulted with conservation organisations and farming representatives on this subject and has asked members of an arable working group to develop ideas for an incentive scheme. It will be vital that these ideas are developed by the Government, with the minimum of delay, into a workable scheme that is adequately funded and will meet conservation objectives on commercial farms. GRAHAM WYNNE Director of Conscrvation, RSPB Sandy, Bedfordshire

Reform of student loans

Sir: Your leading article of 9 August on university top-up fees said that it would be a terrible mistake to allow universities to start charging fees. There is no question of them needing to be allowed. Universities are autonomous private sector charities. Thankfully, they are not part of the public sector, but are subject to the tyranny which can accompany a contract from a (near) monopoly purchaser, in this case the state.

In the absence of an improved loans scheme, top-up fees are undesirable. So too, however, is ageing laboratory equipment, under-investment in IT or further increase in student/staff ratios. Any fee scheme will have to take account of shillity to pay, be it in advance or post-graduation. A fully fledged graduate tax has the attractions of the Veous fly-trap. Where is the example to show that the Treasury can, long term, keep its sticky fingers off funds raised

through the government machine?

I believe the universities and the banks should operate a private loan scheme, with the charges levied allowing for low earners, emigrant graduates, career break losses, etc as well as real rates of interest. Unfortunately, American

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, and include a daytime telephone number.

(Fax: 0171-293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk) Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

experience has shown that it can be more expensive to lend than to give! Thus, the only economic means of recovery is through the Inland Revenue or the Contributions Agency. The new loans company could have a service agreement with either of these to extract repayments from the wage packets of those who had signed up for the loans. In this arrangement the Government is at arm's length and the public sector is not being asked to do anything for which it is not paid. Professor R F BOUCHER Principal and Vice-Chancellor UMIS7

Policing the police

Manchester

Sir: John Wadham of Liberty

such tragedies than most police involvement does not taint them, as Mr Wadham suggested.

criticised almost everything about the way deaths in police custody are currently examined (letters, 8 August.)
He acknowledged that "the Police

Complaints Authority has a role in supervision". However he failed to appreciate that our oversight ensures that a civilian Authority member directs the inquiry and guarantees that an impartial and thorough investigation takes place. Authority members supervise more than 40 inquines into deaths in custody every year. That gives us considerably more experience of officers. I see every completed inquiry and I know that police

It is nonsense to say that only I per cent of all complaints lead to charges against officers - criminal charges yes; disciplinary charges no. Last year 4,684 fully investigated cases, including deaths in custody, ted to 1,277 formal or informal disciplinary actions.

We have called for disclosure, by the coroner, of evidence to the family of the deceased and are in active discussions with the Coroners' Society. In addition we are seeking ways

of preventing such tragedies happeoing. That is why we participated in the Lambeth working group which produced the Lessons from Tragedics report and why we are now working on a study of deaths in custody with the Police Surgeons Association. PETER MOORHOUSE Acting Chairman Police Complaints Authority

Nyet

London SVI

Sir: I recently sought permission to employ an au pair girl from Russia but I have learnt from the immigration and nationality directorate of the Home Office that Russia is not included in the list of countries whose nationals may enter the UK as au pairs, and that there are no plans to extend the scheme.

This surprised me, particularly as nationals of countries such as Bosnia, Croaria, Macedonia, Slovenia and Turkey may come. Why is Russia excluded? This sectors a very short-sighted policy because it is to everyone's advantage that Britain has ties of friendship with Russia. PAMELA PERRIN Baldock, Hertfordshire

Tories conjure up the demon Blair

Sir: You are much too kind to the Tory Central Office in your editorial of 13 August. Caricaturing the personalities of your opponents and exploiting their weaknesses is part of the game. But this latest campaign against Tony Blair sets new standards of squalor and irrationalism in recent public life. The demonisation, the attempt to stir up a kind of voodoo atmosphere, might be saved if there was even a trace of humour or caricature. But there isn't. This looks a dead serious, vicious assault. Nnt a pretty sight. JONATHAN GREEN Mancheswr

Sir: Jung believed that a group could projects its nwn shadow - the unacknowledged side of its own experience - on to another person or organisation. As a result it would see and reject in others what it failed to see and accept in itself. By demonising Tony Blair the Conservatives have inadvertently told us more about themselves than they have about the Labour Party. Fr PAT COLLINS

Sir: When John Smith so tragically died John Major spoke passionately about the integrity of the man and the need to remove personal attacks from politics. In view of the latest poster campaign by Conservative Central Office, I wonder how he would feel, and what he would say, if Tony Blair were to suffer in **ISDRUMMOND** Leeds

Sir. The Fahians have certainly lived up to their namesake's detaying factics in waiting filt now to recommend for Britain what was done for Japan half a century ago ("Labour disowns Fabian attack on the Queen", 12 August). That doughty right-winger General Douglas MacArthur, as Allied supreme commander in occupied Japan, presided over a dramatic reduction in the staff of the imperial household (more than 7,000 retainers lost their jobs) while the Emperor's daughters ceased to be princesses and the Japanese peerage was abolished under the constitution

One result is that the future of the Chrysanthemum Throne is today a lot more secure than is that of the House of Windsor. PETER MARTIN E-mail: p.martin@netcom.co.uk

Muslim empire

Sir: Muslim expansion into southern Europe (letter, 10 August) took place in a world organised into rival empires: it was a question of occupy or be occupied. Comparing the treatment of Christians and Jews under Muslim control, where they lived as protected "People of the Book", with that of Muslims and Jews in the Christian states, when they were allowed to live there at all, it is clear that expansion was the only safe course open to

Muslims. In contrast, the denial of selfdetermination to the Palestinians since 1918 has taken place in a world that is supposed to be organised into self-determining nation states. **PJSTEWART** Oxford

The green, white and orange tiger

Wake up, there's an economic miracle on our doorstep. Ireland is outpacing the world, writes John Lichfield

cenc: St Stephen's Green, central Dublin last week. First Taxi Driver to Second Taxi Driver: "Sure, I didn't recognise you, now, in a f...ing

Quoting taxi drivers as a guide to a nation's economy or politics, or anything else is an ancient and dishonourable newspaper tradition. For once it is justified. The reversal of fortune in the Dublin taxi business (once celchrated for the shabbiness of its cars and the gloominess of its drivers) is startling, A few years ago drivers were giving away their trade plates; now they change hands for up to £75,000. (That is Irish pounds. which are currently worth more than sterling).

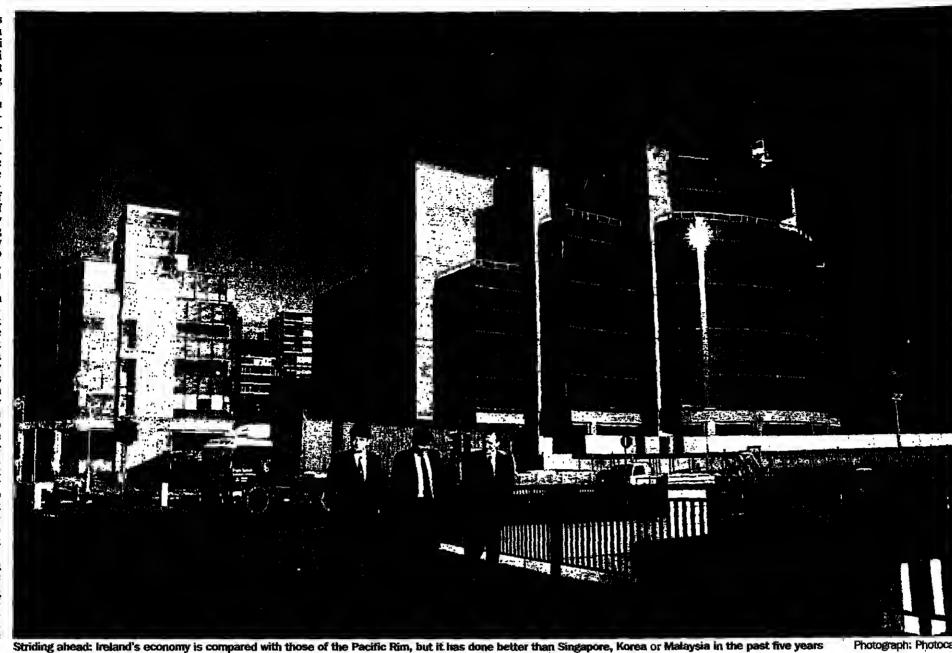
The Republic of Ireland, in case you had missed it, is booming. Ireland's growth rate last year (7.3 per cent) was, for the third year in a row, the highest in the western world. The Irish economy is expected to grow by another 5 or 6 per cent this year. Inflation is the lowest in Europe (2.5 per cent), Nearly one third of all US high-tech investment in Europe goes into the Republic. Ireland has more young people with scientific and engineering degrees than any country, save Japan. Tourist spending in Ireland was 15 per cent up last year; 10 per cent up again this year. There is net emigration into Ireland for the first time since the Potato Famine of the 1840s (apart from a brief spurt in the 1970s).

Ireland is not only booming economically, it has become culturally fashionable. The hill of Killiney to the south of Dublin has so many movie and sports stars in residence that it has been nicknamed Bel Eire by the Dublin Evening Herald. The latest would-be part-time **Dubliners are Marion Brando** and Steffi Graf.

What were the off-thc-peg images of Ireland 20 years ago; even 10 years ago? The interminable, mournful troubles in the North; church-enforced social paralysis in the South; rain; Val Doonican; mass emigration; revolving-door coalition governments; more rain; a begging bowl in Brussels.

Fast-forward to 1996 and the are: a successful soccer team; hopes for peace, now tarnished; a Nobel Prize for Seamus U2: Bob Geldof; endless wins in the Eurovision song contest: the runaway success of Riverdance; more success in the Olympics than Britain; a run of good summers; that nice President Mary Robinson.

It is common (especially in Europe was much more impor-Northern Ireland) to denigrate tant. We got out from under



Ireland's success as a sham boom, jacked up by EU subsidies and mercenary foreign Ireland is sometimes comcompanies who are allowed to repatriate most of their profits. Both accusations have a grain of truth but fail to explain the magnitude of what is happen-

ing across the Irish Sea. EU farm and regional subsidies give Ireland about £2bu a year - 4 per cent of GNP. The direct EU investments in Irish about £1hn a year) are a god-send. But, overall, according to the former Taoiseach Garret Heaney; the Commitments: the Fitzgerald, EU subsidies are Booker Prize for Roddy Doyle; responsible for only half a percentage point of Irish annual growth. Terry Baker, a British economist at the Economic and Social Research Institute in Dublin, says: "The EU money is important but the psychological impact of joining

pared with the Tiger economies of the Pacific Rim; hut Ireland (on the Atlantic rim) has done better than Singaptific or Korea or Malaysia in the past five years. It has comhined Asian growth with European rates of inflation. Add an entry ticket to the Single Euro-pean Market of 350 million people and you have a perfect invitation to international investment.

It is true that the Irish government gilds the invitation by taking only 10 per cent of the profit of foreign firms. Over £2bn in corporate profits were exported from Ireland last year (mostly to the US). But it is not true - no longer true anyway - to describe the imported jobs as low skilled. Increasingly, the work coming to Ire-

Britain: we became a country in our own right, in a sense for the first time. land is high-quality, highly ald says the great secret of the country's success is the bountiful supply of well-educated nology or pharmaceuticals.

At worst, this amounts to a kind of static emigration. Young Irish men and women are still working for foreigners, but at least they are remaining in Ireland while they do so. Many are returning, with skills and money, from abroad. At best, Ireland is building an

industrial revolution which partly through deliberate British policy - it never had in the first. Until the 1960s, almost all industrial capacity in the island of Ireland was in the North; now three quarters of it is in the South. There remain serious blots

on the landscape; particularly the rate of unemployment, still one of the highest in Europe at 12.7 per cent. The jobless especially the long-term jobless - are concentrated in urban and inner-suburban ghettoes, especially in Duhlin, which have some of the worst social, drug and crime problems in the EU. There are large pockets of rural deprivation, worst in the counties close to the border. Otherwise, the boom is reasonably spread around the country. Galway, a sleepy and mori-bund, almost forgotten, town 20 years ago, can now harely cope with its tourist and local trade; it claims to be the fastest grow-

ing city in the EU. In a sense, both the social and economic Irish revolutions are youth-lcd. Garret Fitzger-

young people, produced by an education system which (partly thanks to contributions by the church) costs less per pupil than Britain's.

"Education is the key to everything," he said in an interview at his home last week. "It is a lesson that you in Britain should learn. Or I should say in much more like us. Your com- Jersey. pletion rate in secondary education and take-up rate in third-

To see the new Ireland, turn off the new M50 motorway which bypasses Dublin to the west; continue along the dualcarriageway; turn off onto a country lane; pass two encampments of travellers drying their laundry on the hedgerows (some things never change); pass through the security gates. with airport terminal architecture and manicured lawns and

Donal Connell is general manager of the operation of level education are disastrously 3Com, a Californian company,

Joining Europe was important; we became a country in our own right'

low." Almost half of all Irish specialising in systems that youngsters go to college or university, compared to just under 30 per cent in Britain. Here lurks a great, historical

irony. Education is successful in Ireland partly because it has a large, aspirational rural popu-lation, used to having to travel and learn and hustle for work. Thanks to repressive British policies in times past (denying Catholic Ireland heavy industry), the Republic does not have a large, inflexible, unenterprising, anti-cducation, urban working class. The urban working class that does exist in inner-city Dublin and a few other towns is noticeably exempt from the educational, and economic, boom.

allow computers to communicate with computers. The company came to Ireland six years ago with a promise to employ 176 people by 1996; it employs

Why did 3Com pick Ireland?
"A bright, willing, flexible, well-educated labour force is crucial," says Mr Connell. "The reason we can compete with the Far East, with higher unit labour costs, is because we are always pushing out the bound-aries of our production methods to make them cheaper and better. To do that you need people with good language skills, who can grasp new concepts, who are not fixed on old ways of doing things."

it, but credit is also due (wait for it) to Irish politicians. Ireland had rapid growth in the 1960s but it was thrown away by the profligate spending of Fianna Fail governments in the 1970s, which created severe stagilation (simultaneous recession and inflation). It was Dr You enter-an industrial park - Fitzgerald, as leader-of-Fine Gael, who hegan the fight-back from 1982, but he admits that coalitions - especially Finance Minister, and later European

Few Irish people will admit

Commissioner, Ray MacSharry - share the credit for putting Ireland's house in order. An extraordinary consensus

on economic policy has existed in Duhlin for 15 years, embracing whatever parties happen to be in coalition, from the centreright to the ex-Stalinist left. There have been spending cuts more savage than anything attempted by Mrs Thatcher or Ronald Reagan; there have been substantial personal tax cuts; there has been the world's only successful wage-restraint policy; there has been a stringent monetary policy, in effect, sub-contracted to the Bundeshank through the European Monetary System. This adds up to a uniquely Irish mixture of right-wing (free market) and left-wing (interventionist) poli-cies: but it has worked.

The boom has produced something newish for Ireland the conspicuous flaunting of wealth. More Mercedes were sold in Ireland in the first six month of this year than in any

previous year. Dublin (deprived areas apart) is humming, and changing It is also becoming more European, in ways that can be disturbing, if you loved the old Dublin. The traditional culture of dank pubs, soaked in Guinness and wit, is giving way to a café culture of bright lights, rock music and chatter. The old Dublin still exists in parallel, hut patronised by brown signs advertising a "literary pub tour". If Leopold Bloom lived at this hour, he would be a bond tradesman at the Duhhn international financial services centre. Instead of eating "the inner organs of beasts and fowis", he would spend his lunch hour, with a mobile phone clamped to his ear, eating Acapulco prawns in the Bad Ass Cafe.

Some fear that Ireland is becoming too European; others that it is becoming too American. And yet tourists - often older and richer tourists than before - are pouring in because of the global fashion for things

David Quinn, 27, founder and artistic director of the Punchbag Theatre on the quayside in Galway city, says he has no fears of Irish loss of identity. There is, if anything, a revival of interest among young people in Irish culture. The fact that Ireland has joined the modern world, he says, has made young people more proud of being

"When I was growing up there were no modern Irish heroes. Our heroes were all foreigners. Now we have our own eroes ... Seamus Heaney, U2, Michelle Smith. We are the first liberal generation, the first freeborn generation if you like, in the sense that we no longer measure everything by what Britain does and we don't live in fear of what the Catholic Church says . We have grown up. We have

become a modern nation." What of the future? Demog raphy, among other things, is on Ireland's side. The birth rate has halved in the past decade. Five or 10 years from now, Ireland could be really booming: it will have a relatively small elderly population; a large welleducated working population; fewer people coming into the theory - dramatically lower

European Monetary Union, which Ireland seems certain to join, should provide more economic impetus, according to a recent study (but could cause competitive problems for Ireland if Britain does not join and sterling devalues). EU subsidies will (and should) decline as poorer members join and Ireland becomes more prosperous. But foreign investors are as a eager as ever; Ireland is already cherry-picking the best. If present growth trends continue. Ireland will have a higher GNP per head than Britain in 15 or 20 years.

There is no reason why Britain should begrudge Ire-land's success. Our neighbour remains one of our best and biggest markets; a booming Republic could yet be part of a complex, chemical formula for historical and generational change that might, in time, solve the Irish question. It is time to dump all the old preconceptions about Ireland. You may not have noticed but we have a green, white and orange striped tiger living next door.

Herbert W. Armstrong of the Church of God FREE BOOKLET

ADVERTISEMENT

THE KEY

OF DAVID

THE AMAZING FACTS BEHIND THE 'STONE OF DESTINY...

...and our own Royal Family

Destiny? This stone has been the subject of much controversy in the news recently. In fact, this very Stone helps identify our nation in distory, with some astounding information about just who we are. It also reveals the origin of the very Throne occupied by the present Royal Family!

Royal Family!

It is said that truth is stranger than fiction. Secular history and Biblical research clearly shows that our nation has descended over the centuries from the ancient 'Lost Ten Tribes of Israel'. This is the vital KEY that unlocks to our understanding Bible prophecy in the 20th century. Our identity was known and cherished by the Royal Family for many years until Family for many years until recently. It was taught for over 50 years by Herbert W. Armstrong founder of the Philadelphia Era of The Church of God.

Did you know that there are some truly amazing provable facts behind the 'Stone of Scone,' or 'Stone of Destiny'? This stone has been the subject of much controversy in the news recently. In fact, this very stone belos identify our mation in the most fascinating story characteristic our member, or Spirit filled Christian, you will find in these two stone belos identify our mation in the second of the characteristic our mation in the second of the characteristic our mation in the second of the characteristic output. publications, amazing truth, long hidden. It is startling revelation! While condensed and brief, it is plain, simple, understandable, and absolute truth that stands proved! absolute truth that stands proved:
These two booklets are 'The Key of
David' and 'The United States and
Britain in Prophecy' and we offer
them totally free of charge to
anyone requesting them, We simply
believe that we have an obligation
to make this information known to

SEND FOR YOUR FREE BOOKLETS TODAY!

The Philadelphia Church of God PO Box 1, Abbots Langley, Herts WD5 OBS Tel: 01442 258665 Fax: 01442 231274

You can make mine a Renault McGann

t is with great pleasure that I welcome back Dr Wordsmith, our irregular expert on the meanings and derivations of words.

Dr Wordsmith spent three years at university studying the meanings and derivations of words, and thus left university completely unemployable - or would have done. had it not been for the new fashion for interest in semanties and philology, or at least the current fashion for having columns about words in newspapers. When that fashion passes on. Dr Wordsmith will again be unemployable. Till then we are always guardedly glad to welcome him, to give him a chance to answer your questions about language. All

yours, doc! I have sometimes seen the word "bistro" spelt "bistro" and sometimes seen it spelt "bistrot". Is it correct to have the "t" on the end of the word or not? Dr Wordsmith writes: The French spell it with a "t" on the end, but the English have dropped the "t" in their version of the word. The correct-

on your nationality. In France, for instance, there is a new car called a Renault Mégane. In Ireland, I believe, it is being marketed as a Renault McGann. Same with "bistro" and "bistrot".

But they mean the same in both languages, don't they? Dr Wordsmith writes: No. In France a "bistrot" is an unpretentious little restaurant with shabby decor and dogeared menus where you can get superh food, whereas in England a "bistro" is a pretentious little restaurant with superb menus and décor where you can get...

Yes, I think we get the point, But I have noticed another variation in spelling. Sometimes the word "turbo" is spelt without a
"t", and sometimes it is spelt with a "t", as in "turbot". Is there any difference in meaning? Dr Wordsmith writes: Not

really. "Turbot" with a "t" is a word added to restaurant menus to make them seem impressive, and "turbo" without a "t" is a word added to the backs of cars to make them seem impressive. is the "t" on the end of



Miles Kington

these words ever pronounced?

Dr Wordsmith writes: Not in the case of words like "tarot" and "Merlot" and "Renault", except in igno-rance. The "r" on the end of "gigot" is pronounced in France, but not in Scotland. The "t" on the end of "Camelot" is not pronounced in England, but in France it is pronounced on the end of the equivalent word.

What does the equivalent to Camelot mean in French? Dr Wordsmith writes: A load of over-priced, meretricious

rubbish, as it does in England I have noticed that the word "giro" is sometimes spelt "giro" and sometimes spelt "gro". What is the difference?

Dr Wordsmith writes: They both mean the same thing, ie, things going round and round in a circle, usually money. The original word was "gyro", which was an acronym for "Get Your Revenue Organised", but for some reason this was changed to another acronym. "General Inland Revenue Organisation", or "giro", and

this is the one that has stuck. Where does the actual word acronym come from? I know it means a set of initial letters making a new name, but I don't know the derivation.

Dr Wordsmith writes: Oddly enough, it is itself an acronym. The letters ACRONYM stand for "Adaptable Code for Recalling or Naming Your Message". Shouldn't that be ACFRONYM? You've missed

out the word "for" in the initials Dr Wordsmith writes: Don't get clever with me, fish face. Do you call the United States of America the USOA?

Dr Wordsmith writes: Well. then. Anyway, these acronyms are only a kind of a mnemonic,

Where does the word "mnemonic" come from?
Dr Wordsmith writes:

Blimey. Well, oddly enough, it comes from another acronym.
It stands for MNEMONIC -My New Easy Method of Nemorising Intricate Codes.

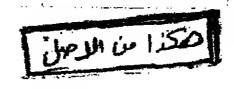
"My" new easy method? Who does "my" refer to? Dr Wordsmith writes: Well, presumably that refers to the inventor of the new easy method.

And who was he? ** Dr Wordsmith writes: I haven't the faintest idea. But whoever he was, he could not spell very well, considering that he put an "n" on the front

of "memorising". In Australia, a "barbecue" is known as a "barbie". Does this mean that in Australia a Barbie Doll is a little man wearing a bloodstained apron holding a

steak on a fork? Dr Wordsmith waites: Look, I see the pubs have just opened and I m dying for a drink. Some other time, perhaps?

Dr Wordsmith will be back soon. Keep those queries rolling in!



eorge Steiner must have wondered, as he tucked into his morning porridge in

Edinburgh yesterday, whether he

was dreaming. The papers were husy telling everyone how he had just given the festival a disdainful

dressing-down in his inaugural Edin-

the annual fiests of failing to live up

to its exalted aims, suggesting that

it was hlinkered in its reluctance to embrace the vivid, purposeful aesthetic of modern science. He had even, apparently, urged the festival to quit while it was ahead.

In the long history of media mis-representation this is of course an

innocuous and trivial case, but it is

worth mentioning that these were

oot remotely the themes of Steiner's

long and interesting speech. They

were merely a teasing (and, if any-

thing, constructive) coda in a sus-

tained tribute to the excellence of

18 10 m

45.000

..... 4000

416 11.

green than in Ma Lan

4113

$\chi g(Q) = 1$ If the 35. 5 . 44 170 84 $m_0 \, {\rm e}^{-\gamma_0}$ 255 1 į. § 1:

44 M

AND THE PERSON

40500

March 1

14 4

efc of

age :

Mark ...

Let'

1 1 5

15.35

10.00

The earliest surviving tragedy is Aeschylus's Persians (472 BC), though more people are familiar with his Oresteia. The second great tragedian was Sophocles, who in plays such as Oedipus Tyrannus created what we understand as the individual "tragic hero". Next came Euripides, with his shocking female leads, such as Medea. All three were imitated by the Romans, but the only surviving Latin tragedies are those of Seneca (first century AD). Senecan tragedy is imhued with Stoic philo-sophy's conflict between passion and reason, obsessed with

the supernatural, and bloodier than its Greek precursors. It fundamentally influenced renaissance neoclassical tragedy, which emulated its five-act structure, figured rhetoric and fascination with

Everyone's popular con-ception of tragedy derives ulti-mately from Aristotle's Poetics. Plato had banned tragedy from his ideal Republic on the ground that it encouraged transvestism and unmanly weeping, his pupil Aristotle responded by maintaining that it elicited the emotions of pity and fear in a constructive process involving catharsis.

Tragedy is conventionally set in the past. The Italians and French embraced myth, which Sartre called "serious theatre's true battleground". But English tragedians always preferred (allegedly) authentic historical figures. Ben Jonson thought that the "truth of argument" of his Sejanus enhanced its emotional impact. Death is central lo tragedy; thus the play-within-a-play in A Mid-summer-Night's Dream is "tragicall ... for Piramus therein

doth kill himselfe". Superior tragedies contemplate the conflict hetween autonomous human action and forces beyond human control, whether conceived as the decrees of the Delphic oracle, or as Gloucester's famous

Let's count our blessings. Robert Winder celebrates summer arts festivals, near and far Edinburgh's engagement with the cosmopolitan artistic life of Europe. One headling even credited the professor with saying that Edinburgh "has outlived its spirit, aims and ideals" — a notably unSteinerish cliche that does not, as it happens, after all. Indeed, this emberance is burgh University Festival lecture: "Why the festival is too big for its boots," they exclaimed. "Time to bury the cultural relics." Steiner had, it appeared, accused the appear of festival to live years. a big part of what makes any festi-

lots-going-on atmosphere in the city as a whole. appear in the lecture at all. He did say that the vision of European fellowship (or "communion") which inspired the festival in its early, post-war days "has not been realised"; but this was a crinicism of westem Europe's continuing love-affair with sectorian fending, hardly a comment on a Scottish arts carnival. In fact, it would be possible to have some sympathy even for the distorted version of Steiner's views. The Edinburgh festival sometimes seems too wacky by half. You can't

turn a corner near the Grass Mar-

ket these days without humping

into someone dressed as a tomato, handing you a playbill for tonight's

Canterbury and Hastings.
And this is just in Britain; the rest val popular and successful: the creation of an exhibarating creative.

Still, the serious question discussed in Steiner's lecture - "What are festivals for?" - is a good one. Certainly we are in the middle of a large and sustained festival-boom. The British Council's guide to arts festivals counts 71 events in the calendar year: everything from the size-able international gatherings at Edinburgh, Aldeburgh, Hay-on-Wyc and Cheltenham to the more modest get-togethers in Abergavenny, Rich-mond-upon-Thames and Bracknell. Culture vultures with time on their hands can gear up for Edinburgh by checking out the scene in Harrogate explosive satire-cum-farce. But even and King's Lynn, and then while away

land, Wells, Lancaster, Guildford,

Only a spoilsport could scorn cultural circuses

of Europe is just as busy. You can jet off on lovely musical holidays in

Festivals cannot be bourgeois museums. They must be places to experiment

Bayreuth or Salzburg, with time to climb an Alp before the string quartets; or attend stirring operatic weekends in Verona and heady jazz nights in Nice. One might have thought that the escalation of media consumption in recent decades -

for a personal brush with the real thing. The opposite seems to be true. These days there are simply more coat-tails the public wishes to touch.

It is hard to see a danger to civilisation in any of this. For one thing, it goes back a long way: Aeschylus, Sophocles and Euripides were all products of the great drama com-petitions of ancient Greece. We moderns no longer believe that art is competitive, though gold medals for art, architecture, music and literature were included in the Olympic Games until 1948. But the idea of culture as sport (rather than as education, or morality, or duty) is attractive. These things are sup-posed to be enjoyable; they are above all social occasions. There is a touch of despotism about arts festivals. Tyrants love them - it shows how sensitive they are. But there is

ting Hill Gate. Edinburgh appears to marry these two elements as well as anywhere - better by far than Salzburg, for instance, where only lottery winners can afford tickets,

and bow ties seem to be compulsory even in the ice-cream kiosks. There is one risk, however, which Steiner forcefully underlined. Festivals cannot merely be bourgeois museums: they need to be forums for promoting new or difficult work, places to experiment - arts labora-tories, as it were. One of the higgest blights on English culture was the association forged by the Bloomsbury group between the high arts and country house living. The baleful idea that a taste for fine art is pretty much the same as a taste for fine wine and elegant furniture (ic. a luxury) has east a long shadow which continues to dim the view. If

festival-mad Britain goes down this heritage-industry route, serving up inoffensive entertainments in the gap between a cream tea and dinner in the Duke's library, then it will not be a heartening trend.

But this does not seem to be happening, Indeed, the touching aspect of most festivals is that they began as private obsessions, and continue to feel driven by innocent enthusiasm. A month ago, for instance, in Bantry, Co Cork, a new one was created. A dairy farming music lover persuaded the Vanbrugh Quartet to perform in one of his cowsheds for a week. Scamus Heaney dropped in and read some poems. The audience went away dazed and happy. Next year, who knows, they may have to use the hayloft as well, and before we know it they will be performing in a muddy marquee out by the silage. It will be many years before the three tenors descend on Bantry and distinguished professors are mistakenly supposed to be shaking their heads and saving that it is not what it used to be.

The Devil still has the best tune

These days we fear Old Nick more than God. That's why demon Blair packs a punch, says Sara Maitland

t is a curious fact that as much around our subliminal when God had a stronger expectations of Satan as around hold on public consciousness than He does Labour Party, old or new. We today, people were less can learn about what these inclined to be so worried about the Devil. The Bishop of Oxford says that the Conservative Party's poster campaign showing Tony Blair with devilishly shit red eyes is dangerous. The bishop may only have meant to say that il was dangerous to democracy for the or with the Devil sitting affecbody politic to demonise the tionately on his shoulder and legitimate opposition; or lo introduce that level of personal abuse into electioneering, but he went further: it was dangerous because it "draws on

satanic imagery". Satanie imagery is a bit more complicated, actually, than a pair of red eyes behind a mask that might be the Lone Ranger's, and which are drawn more from B-grade horror movies than any European Christian tradition. But if the Conservative publicity machine is really trying to draw parallels between Blair and the original

Devil it should be careful. By the end of the Middle Ages, there were three things that everyone knew about the Devil (apart from the fact that he was Bad). The first, which is obviously implied in the advert, is that he was the consummate liar and deceiver. But the others were that the Devil was enormously powerful and enormously sexy. Blair certainly wants to he the former, and probably wants to be thought the latter: it is surprising that the Tory party should so read-ily hand him such an accolade. If the image is going to demonise Mr Blair, it will work

ragedy was supposedly invented by the Greek

playwright Thespis, but the word literally means "goat

song", and tragedy has been

derived from animal sacrifice,

funeral lament, hero cult,

respectively.
Yet tragedies were originally

performed at Athenian festi-

vals of the wine-god Dionysus,

and their forebear is most likely

lo have been Dionysus's danced hymn, the "dithyramb".

For Greek tragedy required

chorus and actors to sing:

indeed, Monteverdi and his

colleagues in the Italian renais-sance believed il to have been

entirely musical, and in imitat-

ing it accidentally invented

ancestor worship, initiation rites, and fertility dances

anything specific about the might be by looking at the history of Christian iconography. Demonising the opposition has long been a part of the polit-

ical job. During the Reforma-tion, pro-Catholic propaganda pictures of Luther frequently showed him either as the Devil whispering inspiration into his ear. The reformers responded with vicious caricatures of the dealing with him. Quite simply,

seducing them. The very word "glamour" derives from the spell that, under his auspices, witches performed: to "cast a glamour" was their crime. The word eventually extended to the alluring but delusive beauty that the witches gained from their association with the Devil.

lished his bond with witches by

Because people knew all this about him, they were far less worried by evil than we seem to be. If you believed in Satan you also believed in a God who had were therefore simple ways of

We are obsessed by evil without any counterbalancing sense of good triumphing

personified Papal Bull, who is shown in 16th-century prints sitting at a table with a revoltingly obese Pope; the Bull's horns and tail were far more explicitly demonic than the red eyes and sinister mask that the Tories have pained on Mr Blair. The Devil was strong and

subtle. He started out as a mere snake hut quickly took on all the powers of the dragon, hreathing fire and wreaking havoc. As well as having immense physical strength, he also apparently had great mental powers as well. He could dispute with the greatest theologian. He was the master of disguise - dressing up as someone else being the very core of "lying", and one of the reasons why cross-dressing was more or less proof of heresy, as Joan of Arc discovered.

The Devil was sexy: he estab-

the Devil was terrified of Jesus. so you had only lo name Christ or make the sign of the cross and the Devil would be forced to fice. (A good test, this. Make the sign of the cross when you next see Tony Blair on the TV, and if he explodes in a puff of vile smoke you should vote Tory next time. If he does oot, you can safely fol-

political discernment.) The important thing in the Middle Ages was to keep the Devil in proportion. Hell was a real threat, and should not be ignored, but to let the Devil terrify you was equally reprehensible. In Christ there was oothing to fear - the Devil could be laughed at Teresa of Avila recalls that when her visions began, she consulted a confessor about how she would know whether they were from God or Satan. He instructed her to

visions were sent by God) would be pleasing to the Lord, and if they were from the Devil he would flee because the Devil, being unspeakably proud, can-not bear to be laughed at. In the light of the victory of Christ, the argument went, the Devil should be mocked. The lit-

tle red devils with horns, goats' feel and tails, familiar from mediaeval paintings, were a overcome Satan - and there product of this attitude. When the Devil appeared in art there was often an element of farce. In the Mary of Nimmegen mys-tery play, for example, Satan confesses that all the devils are slightly deformed: "It is not in our power, we devils from hell/to incarnate ourselves... without some little defect here or there./Be it in the head or the hands or the feet." Look at Hieronymus Bosch images to see the devil portrayed in innumerable playful forms. What is frightening now is

that we seem obsessed by evil without any counterbalancing sense of a triumph of good; or even any decent myth resources. We say we don't believe in the low your normal method of Devil, but popular culture is full of images that depend on his power: horror movies, invasive aliens, invisible diseases, ritual abuse, the overwhelming "evil" of a Hamilton or a West - a devil too powerful for us to ward off with simple charms, too amorphous for us to visualise, and too scary for us either to admit we are scared of or to laugh at.

What is worrying is that the creators of this new poster are aware enough of these lurking fears to try to exploit them. It



Hieronymus Bosch's hell: in the Middle Ages it was fau easier to mock the Devil Bridgeman Art Library

is precisely to the point that there should be no actual, measurable or examinable message in these advertisements; they just say, "be frightened".

It must be quite hard for the other political parties to respond to this particular campaign. Either to ignore it altogether, or to join in, carries very real risks.

gods in King Lear, killing humans as wanton boys kill

flies for their sport. George

Steiner argued in The Death of

Tragedy that the form is

defunct precisely because the

dominant thought systems of

the 20th-century West, Marx-

ism and Christianity, cannot

accommodate the old Hel-

lenic notions of hlind fate or

Chaucer defined a tragedy

as a story "of hym that stood

in greet prosperitee/And is

yfallen out of heigh degree/

Into myserie, and endeth

unjust gods.

If Labour can learn anything from history, its best bet would probably be to laugh at it. Might I recommend a poster showing Blair as a rather cherubic ange with non-aerodynamic winglets still grinning sweetly, floating in the air with a slogan under his feet, "Labour rises above the slings and arrows of Tory abuse".

himself a claim to the title of

"20th-century tragedian'. In his Death of a Salesman, the

lowly Willy Loman, brought

incluctably into conflict with

the expectations of a restric-

tive society, approaches the

heroic stature of the Sopho-

the tragic hero is "yfallen" and "endeth wreechedly" is

traceable to Aristotle: for him

the best tragic plot featured a

successful individual making a

mistake (hamaria, eg marry-ing your mother), leading to a

reversal of fortune. This need

for a "wretched ending'

explains why tragedy is dead in

today's cinemas, our equiva-

lent of the Athenian theatre of

Unhappy endings are

Even Chaucer's view that

clean Oedipus.

ELEGANT. BEAUTIFUL. PROUD. SOON SHE COULD BE DEAD FROM HUNGER.

Sophine Wamboi is typical of thousands of alderly people living in atrocious conditions overseas right now. Living in a tiny, insenitary shack, she is strugging to survive on a handful of rice a day. Without help soon, she could die.

Yet by sponsoring an elderly person such as Sophina for just \$10 a month, you could provide them with life-saving supplies of food, medicines and clothing and help give them back the dignity they deserve.

In return, you'll receive regular reports that keep you in touch with your adopted grandparent. For more details, please complete the form below.

	1			
		1		The state of the s
1		JAN TO		
			1	1
134	Sul	Eq. 1	4	

VISITING LECTURER: Edith Hall A final examination will be set at the end of term.

Tragedy

THE CENTRAL FACTS FROM THE COURSES YOU ALWAYS MEANT TO TAKE. IN 25 LECTURES



All graduates will be awarded a diploma and the ten best results will receive a year's subscription to the Independent

wrecchedly": the heroes in tragedy, classically conceived, must be of "heigh degree". There was long a genre distinction between "aristocratic" tragic heroes and comedy's plebeian characters. Tragedy proper thus ended with the incien régime in 1789: the French revolutionary dramatist Beaumarchais (who composed the libretto for Mozart's Marriage of Figuro), wrote that tragedy must henceforward focus on people of "ordinary

degree" rather than kings. Many subsequent serious dramas about "ordinary" people can arguably be called "tragedies" (Ibsen's Hedda Gabler, Pinter's The Caretaker, Synge's Riders to the Sea). Arthur Miller thinks that true tragedy lies in the kinds of questions a writer asks rather than in a specific form, and has

man so acerbically observed his satire on the film industr The Player. The film-within the-film was to have ende with Julia Roberts executed the gas chamber, hut con mercial pressures forced th substitution of her rescue that unlikely deus ex machin Bruce Willis. Perhaps or modern consciousness is overwhelmed by the re human tragedies relayed the media that it can no long tolerate downbeat closure its recreational fictions

uncommercial, as Robert Altman so accrbically observed in his satire on the film industry, The Player. The film-within-the-film was to have ended with Julia Roberts executed in the gas chamber, hut commercial pressures forced the substitution of her rescue by that unlikely deus ex machina.	Yes, I'm interested in he send me details. Mr / Mrs / Miss / Ma Address	helping an elderly person overseas. Picase		
Bruce Willis. Perhaps our modern consciousness is so overwhelmed by the real	Postcode Recurs to :	Tel.No.		
human tragedies relayed by the media that it can no longer tolerate downbeat closure in its recreational fictions.	Helen Higgs, Adopt a Oranny Relp the Aged, PREFORT London BOLE LAY.	Help the Aged Adopt a Granny Negliant Charty No. 1797(8)		
Tomorrow, Comedy	L			

Sir Anthony Parsons

Anthony Parsons was one of the most invigorating characters in

British public life. When I met him first, in the late 1950s, he was a junior at-tache in the British Embassy at Ankara, and I admired his familiarity with the Turkish political scene as much as I enjoyed his company and that of his wife, Sheila. In subsequent years, when he was a rising diplomat, our paths crossed frequently in various Arah countries and I used to think that he would have been a great success in my own profession of journalism. With his quick intelligence, his command of Arabic, Turkish and Persian, and his individualistic approach to life, I thought him much more suitable material for a foreign correspondent than for a diplomat. Indeed, I thought in those days that it was not so much a question of whether he would get to the top in the Foreign Office as whether he would last the course at all.

Not for lack of ability, you un-derstand. Soon after winning a Military Cross as an artillery officer during the Second World War, he was given the opportu-nity to read Oriental Languages at Oxford as an apprenticeship to a career in the diplomatic service and emerged, from Balliol, with First Class honours. But the question mark would have been over his willingness to stay in line when he found himself required to accept and to implement policies whose wisdom he doubted; and there were indeed to be occasions during his 40odd years as a public servant when his loyalty was severely tested. The Suez crisis in 1956 was one, and for Anthony Parsons there was another near thing in 1967 when his masters in Whitehall dithered over the question of whether or not to abandon Britain's imperial role in the Persian Gulf.

That he survived these and other moments of less acute tension was due to a personality which combined a number of disparate, even contradictory, characteristics but which had at its core an unshakeable integrity. He would have balked at that phrase, for of all things he hated any suggestion of pomposity, and the assurance with which he pursued his public career was tempered always with informality and a sense of humour which could make fun of his own necessary posturing, for instance as Britain's representative at the United Nations. And when he misindeed events, as he frankly admitted he had done in Iran during the months which led up to the overthrow of the Shafi in 1979, he was the first to say so, omitting to mention that everyone else had made the same mistake - except, he would add with a

It was above all that sense of of British diplomacy as demon-



Parsons, centre, voting at the United Nations Security Council with his colleagues Oleg Tryanovsky (Soviet Union, left) and Charles Lich

Photograph: Popperfoto/UPI

humour, masking as it did as grasp of affairs which was very seldom at fault, which carried

strated by Sir Anthony at this crowning moment of his career. It was indeed an outstanding him to the top; that and an ability to win the trust even of those who disagreed with him. With Arabs, among whom he spent the greater part of his professional life, this combination of frankness and an always imminent sense of humour brought instant success. In Egypt, in Su-dan, in Bahrain and the smaller Gulf sheikhdoms, there were many occasions when angry di-atribes against the sins of British imperialism ended in gusts of laughter as each side acknowl-

edged its own pretensions. Nor was it only Arabs whom Anthony Parsons was able to disarm in this way. His opposite number at the UN during the presidency of Ronald Reagan was Jeanne Kirkpatrick, an ideologue of the far right whose outlook could scarcely have been further removed from his own; but she was seduced (if the Parsons technique of forthright but always genial argument. The way he tackled what looked at first like an impossible task in the early days of the crisis over Argentina's invasion of the Falklands Islands drew from Kirkpatrick a reluctant tribute to the enduring skills read English Literature at uni- ond career - and it was char-

success. In the face of hesitan-

cy from the Americans and downright hostility from some of the other members of the Security Council, Parsons managed to muster the 10 essential votes for a mandatory resolution condemning the Argentine action and so opening the way for Margaret Thatcher's govern-ment to embark on its ultimately successful counter-action. No doubt it was this, among other things, that persuaded Thatcher, when Parsons retired from the Foreign Office not long afterwards, to enlist him as her personal adviser on foreign affairs. He accepted the appointment, after some hesitation and on a part-time basis, anxious not to find himself at odds with his diplomatic colleagues. All was well, and the other members of the Prime Minister's staff marvelled at the way she accepted such a word can be applied to from Parsons interruption and so implacable an opponent) by even criticism which, coming from anyone else, would have much in demand as a speaker been brusquely overruled.

> and with time at last to include his fancies, his inclination leaned towards the academic life. He often said that given the crises. In this way he developed choice he would have liked to presently what was almost a sected and English Literature at union ond career — and it was charversity, and he would have made acteristic that he was always as Dalyell, Anthony Parsons and Choice he would have liked to presently what was almost a sected. The United Nations between me time, The veteran Russian he called without doubt the most daughters, and diplomat, accompanied by compelling and absorbing expectaged; died Ash versity, and he would have made acteristic that he was always as Dalyell, Anthony Parsons and Anataly Dobrynin, the long-rience of his diplomatic life, 12 August 1996.

a stimulating tutor. As it was, he had acquired in the spare moments of an active career a familiarity with the works of everyone from Beowulf to P.G. Wodehouse, with Conrad as a particular and suggestive favourite. It was (or so I sensed) the romantic in him that embraced Conrad, as well as the conviction, grounded in experience, that success is there to he grasped hut is only a hair's-hreadth away from failure; and that the right approach to life involves the readiness if necessary to accept failure, but to use it as a milestone on the way to

However, it was his background in the language and culture of the Arah world that claimed his attention when he was invited to become a Research Fellow and presently a Lecturer in the Centre for Arab Gulf Studies at Exeter University, for which he was uniquely qualified both by experience and by academic knowledge. At the same time he found himself After that, at the age of 62 one who could explain clearly and with authority to radio and television audiences the ins and outs of successive foreign affairs

ready to address audiences in schools and the equivalent of the local mothers' union as to take part in seminars at St Antony's in Oxford.

Anthony Parsons would have described his life as a happy one and so it was; and yet fate struck him two fearful blows when first one and then the other of his two sons died without warning. These were wounds from which he never recovered, even though he had the solace of an exceptionally happy marriage and two daughters with whom he enjoyed a very close and affectionate relationship.

Apart from this, if he had one enduring regret it was that as an Englishman and a diplomat with long experience in the field of international affairs, he had not been able to correct the injustices to which, in part through the mistakes of British governments, the Palestinian people had been subjected and are still being subjected today. This was something he felt deeply and which was close to his heart throughout his long inat meetings of all kinds and as volvement with the politics of the Middle East.

Michael Adams

When he was United Kingdom Permanent Representative to his wife Sheila opened their home and gave of their time to the regular rotating visiting group of Members of Parliament who went annually to New York in the autumn. One felt, genuinely, that they welcomed elected representatives, warts and all, and did not regard us, as sometimes happens in the Foreign Office, as a nuisance and "visiting firemen".

Parsons adored argument

and was engagingly open to opinions certainly other than his government's, and, I believe, his own. It was perhaps typical of him, that when in a round-table hriefing I vehemently dissented from Mrs Thatcher's anti-Russian, pro-Mujahedin line on Afghanistan, he replied in kind, and at the end of the meeting asked me to wait a moment. "As you are seriously interested, I will arrange for you to go and see my Russian colleague, Oleg Tiyanovsky, who will give you comfort for your view."

As good as his word he arranged that the following day I should turn up at the fortress headquarters of the Russian delegation in New York. Conducted to Mr Tryanovsky's study, I opened with the remark that it was kind of him to give

enthusiastically the cause of

standing Soviet ambassador to Washington, said, "We wouldn't have seen you normally. But since Anthony Parsons suggested that we should and we have such a high regard for Anthony Parsons, we decided that we would." To impress Tryanovksy, Dobrynin and in the same year Margaret Thatcher was quite some achievement for a diplomat.

It was not only the Russians who were impressed, so were most of his UN colleagues; and those who heard his frequent contributions in the last 1S years to the BBC radio pro-gramme The World Tonight will have no difficulty in understanding why. Parsons was extremely eloquent and always had something worth saying. Even those of us who were appalled by Mrs Thatcher's attitude to the 1982 Falldands crisis recognise that it was Parsons and Sir Nicholas Henderson in Washington who played a crucial role in rallying Americans to the British cause and neutralising many potentially hosin New York which was the tile members of the UN. Parsons was a tremendously

In later years, a possible mea

energetic operator.

ending up when he left Tehran towards the end of January 1979. a few days after the Shah and his family had fled into exile.
"Could I," he would ask, "as

British ambassador have been more perceptive in the years immediately before the revolution broke out?

"Should I have anticipated that the forces of opposition to the Shah - the religious classes, the bazaar, the students would combine to destroy him, although each of these groups was hostile to the regime for a different reason? Could I," Parsons would ask his friends, "have known in advance that the combination of these civilian, unarmed, elements would prove too strong for a regime whose power was hased on united, well-armed, wellequipped and loyal armed forces backed by what appeared to be a formidable security

apparatus - the dreaded Savak?
"Had I been able to see so deep into the heart of Iranian society," he would sigh, "would I have advised my government, as well as the British private and public sectors to adopt different policies - different in all fields including our political and strategic relationship with the Shah, our commercial and financial links with Iran oil, the sale of military equipment and much else?

"If we had adopted different policies across the broad spectrum of our dealings with Iran, would this," he murmured, have lessened the damage to British interests when the collapse finally came?"

Historians in the 21st century and later, when they come to study our century, and its most momentous events, cannot possibly ignore the book The Pride and the Fall in which Parsons addresses so perceptively these questions.

He was a man of enormous insight, a most impressive representative of the Foreign

Anthony Derrick Parsons, diplo-mat: born 9 September 1922; MC 1945; staff, HM Embassies, Ankara 1955-59, Amman 1959-60, Cairo 1960-61, Khartoum 1964-65; Political Agent, Bahrain 1965-69; LVO 1965; CMG 1969, KCMG 1975, GCMG 1982; Counsellor, UK Mission to UN 1969-71; Under-Secretary, FCO 1971-74; Ambassador to Iran 1974-79; UK Permanent Representative to UN 1979-82; Special Adviser to the Prime Minister on foreign affairs 1982-83; Research Fellow, Exeter University 1984-96, Pride and the Fall 1984, They Say the Lion 1986, From Cold War to Hot Peace: UN interculpa had a pre-eminent place ventions 1947-1994 1995; marin his mind. It concerned what ried 1948 Sheila Baird (two he called without doubt the most daughters, and two sons deceased); died Ashburton. Devon

Imam Muhammad al-Badr

Muhammad al-Badr bin Ahmad Hamid al-Din was the last imam and king of the Mutawakkilite Kingdom of Yemen.

A sayyid and thus a direct descendant of the Prophet Muhammad through his daughter Fatima, al-Badr was also a scion of Imam al-Hadi Yahya bin al-Husayn, who established a Zaydi Shia state in Sadah in northern Yemen in the last decade of the ninth century. He was thus the last of a succession of more than 70 imams who ruled in the Yemen until 1962. His great-grandfather al-Mansur Muhammad was Imam and his grandfather was al-Mutawakkit Yahya, who became Imam in 1904. Yahya and then his son Imam Ahmad (al-Badr's fa-ther) succeeded in maintaining the independence of the Yemen despite the British occupation of Aden and the whole of, what

was then, South Yemen. Muhammad al-Badr was born in 1929 in the town of Hajjah in north-west Yemen, where his father Sayf al-Islam Ahmad was governor on behalf of Imam Yahya. His mother was Sharifa Safiyya bint Muhammad from the sayyid family of al-Issi of Shahara. In Hajjah he re-ceived a traditional Yemeni education in the Koran, Islamic religion, Arabic grammar and

In 1944 he moved to Taizz in the south of the country, where his father had already been the lmam's deputy for several years. to continue his education. Soon after the cruel assassination of Imam Yahya in February 1948 plotted by Sayvid Abdullah al- The life of a warrior: at-Badr during Yemen's eight-year civil war Photograph: Lord Kibracker/Camera Press

month of the assassination had easily regained control of Sanaa and executed the principal

the capital, but apparently only gave tacit support to the new regime. Meanwhile Savf al-Islam Ahmad had managed to get away from Taizz and made for Hajjah, where he gathered the tribes around him, proclaimed himself Imam with the title of al-Nasir and within a

perpetrators of the rebellion. Sayf al-Islam al-Badr (as Muhammad now became), not yet 20, was clearly able to patch up speedily any misunder-standings with his father, for in late 1949 he was appointed his deputy over Hodeida, the im-

Al-Badr played a prominent role in quelling the revolt against Imam Ahmad in 1955 led by Ahmad's brother Sayf al-Islam Abdullah and afterwards was declared Crown Prince. During the remaining period of Imam Ahmad's rule he held the post of Minister of Foreign Affairs and from 1958 was also the Imam's deputy over Sanaa. In 1959 he was put in complete charge of the Yemen for a few months during Imam Ahmad's absence in Italy for medical treatment. An assassination attempt on the life of Imam Ah-mad in March 1961 left the

took over effective control fo

the government. On 19 September 1962 Ahmad died in his sleep, al-Badr was proclaimed Imam and King and took the title of al-Mansur, but a week later rebels shelled his residence, Dar al Bashair, in the Bir al-Azab district of Sanaa and set up a republic,
Al-Badr had, when Crown

Prince, like most young Arab leaders of his generation, been a great admirer of the Egyptian President Jamal Abd al-Nasir and had even arranged during his father's absence in Italy for Egyptian experts to come and help modernise the Yemen in all



portant port on the Red Sea. He latter gravely crippled and in fields, including the military. His was also made Minister of the October Sayf al-Islam al-Badr father moreover had incorporated Yemen into the United Arab Republic of Egypt and Syria, which then became the United Arab States. It is thus ironic that the Yemen revolution of 26 September 1962 was largely instigated and planned by Egyptians and that without a massive Egyptian presence in the Yemen for five years afterwards the Yemen Arab Repub-

lic could never have survived.
Although the revolution had announced to the world that al-Badr had died beneath the rubble of his palace he had in fact managed to escape unhurt and had set out to the north. As he proceeded on his journey the tribes rallied round him pledging him their unconditional allegiance as Amir al-Mumineen ("Prince of the Faithful"). These tribes were zealous Zaydi Shia for whom unstinted loyalty to an imam from the Ahl al-Bayt (the descendants of the Prophet) was a fundamental obligation of their religion. A few days later he held a press conference over the border in south-west Saudi Arabia. His uncle Sayf al-Islam al-Hasan, who had been abroad and had been proclaimed Imam at the news of al-Badr's alleged demise, immediately gave allegiance to him together with all the princes of the Hamid al-Din family. Soon the entire tribal confederation of Bakil along with most of Hashid who occupied the central and northern highlands of the Yemen and who had been Zaydis for centuries joined

the Imam and the princes to fight the revolutionary regime. During the bloody civil war which continued for eight years al-Badr, like his cousins, played a vital role. He lived alongside his men the life of a warrior. sharing with them every depri-vation and hardship. He set up his headquarters in various places in the scenically spectacular mountainous north-west Yemen, on Jebal Qara, for instance, in the region of Hajur al-Sham and at al-Muhahisha high up above the Tihama plain. These HQs situated in caves fitted out with every basic facility deep in the mountainside were nevertheless constantly under the threat of Egyptian bombardment from the air. In 1967 al-Badr left his HQ at Mabyan near Hajjah for Taif in Saudi Arabia, where he stayed until the end of the war.

In 1970, despite the fact that territorially, most of the Yemen remained under the control of al-Badr and the Hamid al-Din family, Saudi Arabia, which had been the principal oppo-nent of the Sanaa regime, recognised the Yemen Arab Republic and other nations like the United Kingdom swiftly followed suit.

Stunned by Sandi Arabia's recognition of the republican regime which had been negotiated without any consultation with him whatsoever, al-Badr refused to stay any longer in Saudi Arabia and demanded that he be permitted to leave the kingdom immediately. He went to England, where he lived qui-



The young al-Badr, left, with his father, Imam Ahmad

etly in a modest house in Kent, only going abroad to visit the holy cities of Mecca and Medina and to call on relatives and friends in that part of the world. He died last week in London.

Al-Badr was a man of great courtesy, kindness and person-al charm. He loved dearly the Yemeni people and was essentially a man of peace. When I asked him a few years after he arrived in Britain whether he had plans to return to the Yemen as Imam he replied without hesitation that he would do so only at the invita-

tion of the whole Yemeni nation. He said he would never allow a terrible civil war to rage once again in his beloved

A. R. D. R. Eagle Muhammad al-Badr bin Ahmad Hamid al-din: born Hajjah, Yemen 25 February 1929; succeeded 1962 as Imam al-Mansur Muhammad al-Badr, King of the Mutawakklite Kingdom of the Yemen, deposed 1962; three times

married (two sons, two daughters): died London 6 August

BIRTHS

COLLORY: On 9 August 1996, to Maria (née Debono) and Martin, a

DEATHS

RANDALL: The Rev David William, aged 49 years. Peacefully in the presence of his partner, Tristan, at the London Lighthouse, on Thesday 13 August 1996. Funeral service, Holy Innocents Church, Paddenswick Road, Hammersmith, London W12, on Friday 23 August 21 3 Non Followed

Births, **Marriages** & Deaths

by private cremation. No flowers by

For Courtie BIRTES, MARRIAGES & DEATHS, please telephone 0171-293 2011. Charges are £6.50 a line (VAT extra).

Marriages Mr M. C. J. Gibson and Miss L Kenrick

The marriage took place on Friday 9 August, at Tobermory, Mull, be-tween Mathew Gibson and Iona Kenrick, both of Camberwell,

David Crosby, singer, 55; Mrs Jen-nifer d'Abo, chairman, Moyses Stevens investments, 51; Mr Fred Davis, snooker player, 83; Vice-Admiral John Dunt, Chief of Dedence Staff (Systems), 52; Mr Buddy Greco, jazz pianist and singer, 70: Dr Keith Hampson MP, 53; Mr David Hopkinson, former chairman, Harrisons and Crossfield, 70; The

Court judge, 58; Sir Robin McLaren, former ambassador to China, 62; Mr Steve Martin, actor and comedian, 51; Lord Misheon, solicitor, 81; Dr Oliver Neville, consultant to the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, 67; Royal Academy of Dramanc Art, 07. Mr Frederic Raphael, novelig, 65; Mr Tony Scannell, actor, 51: Sir Ronald Stewart, former chairman, London Brick Co, 93; The Right Rev Hewlen

Anniversaries

Births: Dr Florence Estienne Méric Casaubon, classical scholar, 1599; Samuel Sebastian Wesley, compossamuei Sebastian Wesley, compos-er, 1810, Sir Walter Besant, novelist and philanthropist, 1836; John Galsworthy, novelist and playwright, 1867. Deaths: Angustus Montague Harrisons and Crossfield, 70, The
Rev Dom Anthony Philip Jebb, former Head Master, Downside School,
Miss Surah Brightman, soprano, 35;
Mr Ronald Campbell MP, 53; Mr

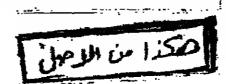
Harrisons and Crossfield, 70, The
Rev Dom Anthony Philip Jebb, former Head Master, Downside School,
64; Professor Sir Andrew Kay, surman, Cambridge Chemical Co, 69,
Mr Sydney Wooderson, athlete, 82.

William Harmsworth, first Viscount

Northcliffe, newspaper proprietor, 1922; William Randolph Hearst, newspaper proprietor, 1951; Bertoli Brecht, writer, 1956; Leonard Sidney Woolf, publisher, 1969; Jules Romains (Louis Farigoule), novelist, playwright and poet, 1972; John Boynton Priestley, novelist and play-wright, 1984. On this day: the French repulsed William of Orange at the Battle of Mons, 1678; Japan surren-1945; following noting, British troops

restore order, 1969; after peace talks in Cyprus broke down, Turkish troops launched an attack on Nicosia, 1974. Today is the Feast Day of St Athanasia of Aegina, St Eusebus of Rome,
St Fachanan, St Marcellus of Apamea and St Maximilian Kolhe.

Changing of the Guard



WANCIET 1906

the second secon

in left Tehran Figures 1979 the Sheh and ed into soile, would ask, "as dor have been in the years imthe revolution

or anticipated opposition to chipous class-he students - n destroy him, these groups regime for a Could L. Parhis friends, wance that the hese civilian ents would Rints would for a regime as based on med. well-loyal armed hal appeared this security caded Savak of of Iranian sigh, "would government, in private and sdopt differ-ferent in all

unercial and tranoil, the upment and led different broad spec-ga with Iran, murmured, : damage to when the

our political ionship with

21stcentuhey come to and its most cannot personal the Prairie Parsons adlively these

l enormous impressie. he Foreign

3093. doplo ± 1922. MC Embassics, unan 1959-La Khartovon ni, Buhwan MG 1982

4

franch for the war to released

Emple in Ah. Juliah. Juliah

2.4

BUSINESS NEWS DESK: tel 0171-293 2636 fax 0171-293 2098

Government reveals £165m Energy stake unsold

MICHAEL HARRISON

The final chapter in the ill-fated flotation of the nuclear power generator British Energy closed vesterday when the Government disclosed that it has been left sitting on an unsold 12.3 per

cent stake worth £165m. The stake represents 81m of the 90m shares held back to allow its financial advisers BZW to stabilise the price of British Energy shares in the first month after the sell-off.

Because of its failure to find

tion has only raised £1.24bn for the Government compared with an initial estimate of up to £1.97bn. Together with debt injected into the company, the proceeds are less than £2bn and some £800m short of the best estimates given by BZW when it

was preparing the flotation.
The Treasury has been forced to hold on to residual stakes in past privatisations but the size of the British Energy rump left in the hands of the taxpayer is un-

The Treasury will now have to retain the shareholding until market conditions improve or sentiment turns sharply in favour of British Energy, which owns and operates the country's eight most modern ouclear reactors. But this could take years.

In the case of the British Petroleum sell-off in 1987 which became a casualty of the world stock market crash, the Government was left with a holding of 100 million shares which was finally sold only this year, raising

The Government has used over-allorment of shares - otherwise known as a "greenshoe" - to help its banking advisers sta-bilise the price in the aftermarket on five previous occasions. These were the second and third offerings of BT shares, the sale of its remaining stakes in the two electricity generators National

Railtrack But in each case, it was left with only a very small rump of shares to be fed subsequently

Power and PowerGen, and

The marketing of British Energy was dogged through-out, culminating in the closure of two of its eight reactors to check cracks in pipe welds just as subscriptions for the public offer closed.

Although private investors suspecibed for three times the shares on offer, institutional investors went cold on the issue and the fully-paid shares were priced at 203p - towards the bot-tom end of the 180p-280p range indicated by the Government and its advisers. The partly paid

shares were priced at 105p but ble for dividend payments on the plunged to a discount of more unsold shares. than 10 per cent on the first day of dealing last mooth.

Unit trusts

The shares have staged a modest recovery since but they still closed 3.25p below their offer price last night at 101.75p. A. spokesman for the Government said: "The fact that the greenshoe was never used has not come as a surprise to anyone because of the trading performance of the shares."

The one consolation for taxpayers is that they will be eligi-

DFF.128 41

CARCERIE: 12 8

With two dividend payments due before the second instalment falls due, the yield on the partly paid shares is over 20 per cent.

The spokesman also maintained that it was quite usual on the Continent for a proportion of shares in newly privatised companies to be left in state hands as a result of stabilisation procedures. This happened with the flotation of Renault and Usinor-Sacilor in France and Spain's Telefonica.

BBC in **BSkyB** pay-TV

MATHEW HORSMAN Media Editor

CITY & BUSINESS EDITOR: JEREMY WARNER

The BBC is in negotiations with BSkyB, Rupert Murdoch's satellite broadcaster, aimed at creating several new television. channels to be available on a

subscription basis only. The talks are in parallel to ne gotiations between the BBC and US-controlled Flextech, the second force in the £1bn pay-TV market, which the two parties yesterday publicly confirmed were under way.

The parallel approach is aimed at ensuring the BBC gets the best deal possible for the development of new channels based on its extensive library and programme-making capacities. It intends to lannch the services in time for the introduction of digital television. probably by the end of 1997. Sources close to the negotiations said a deal of some sort

was likely within a month.

The BBC has promised make its digital programming available on all platforms satellite, cable or terrestrial - as part of its preparations for the digital age. However, a deal with BSkyB, which dominates the pay-TV sector, could be politi-cally sensitive, and insiders were hinting last night that Flextecb, controlled by John Malone's cable giant TCI, could be the preferred partner.

News of Flextech's potential involvement sent its shares 27p higher to 501p, and prompted media analysts to predict additional commercial revenues for the BBC, which has been seeking private sector partners following the announcement this summer of a big restructuring, aimed at preparing the corpo-ration for digital television.

The talks were launched the wake of Flextech's efforts to take full control of two joint venture channels - UK Gold and UK Living-which it shares with the BBC, Cox Communications of Atlanta and Pearson. According to sources close to the sales talks, Pearson could take up to 15 per cent of Flextech's shares in exchange for its 15 per cent stake in UK Gold and UK Living. The negotiations are still son holding out for an agreement that Flextech would take a minimum amount of Pearson's

Littlechild slashes £1bn from Grid revenues CHRIS GODSMARK **Business Correspondent**

The electricity watchdog, Offer, yesterday unveiled a tough new price regime for the National Grid which would slash £1ba off reveoues.

The news provoked a furious response from the company, but received a warm welcome from consumers' groups.

The four year price controls which start from next April would reduce the Grid's revenues by between 20 and 26 per cent in the first year and limit increases in the following three years to 4 per cent below the rate of inflation. The current price formula caps increases at inflation minus 3 per cent.

It would reduce the company's revenues by around £300m a year, equivalent to customer savings of £4 to £5 off an averge annual electricity bill of £300. Grid charges account for about 7 per cent of domestic bills. Peter Weston, from the electricity consumers' committees was delighted. "It's a good day for the consumer," he said, "It's proof that the balance of benefit is

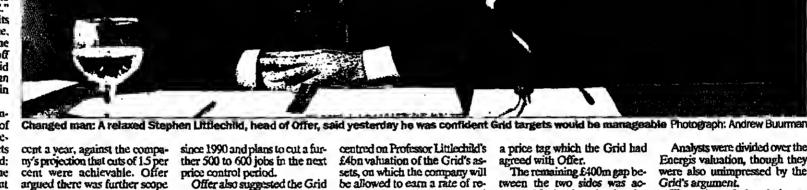
away from sharebolders." Comparing the proposals with

TransCo, the British Gas pipeline business, the Grid's chief executive, David Jones, said he was "extraordinarily angry at the unprecedented severity and illogicality" of the proposals. But he stopped short of suggesting the dispute would end with a reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, He continued: "I would hope our case is so strong that common sense will prevail. It's just too early to

say speculate about the MMC." The announcement took its toll on the Grid's share price, which slumped 10.5p to end the day at 165p, knocking £200m off its stock market value. Grid shares have fallen by more than 20 per cent since the flotation in

Backed up by a mass of consultants' reports, the head of Offer, Professor Stepheo Littlechild, was confident the targets were manageable. He said: "What I am proposing is in line with what good management can achieve." One analyst said: "Littlechild was a changed man today. He was very relaxed and extremely sure of himself." The Grid has until 10 September to due later in the month.

The price regime would cut



had managed to cut costs by 30 per cent over the past three years, a much faster rate than it had forecast. don't know where these reductions are going to come from,"

for savings, given that the Grid

ther 500 to 600 jobs in the next price control period.

Offer also suggested the Grid could operate with new investment of £715m over the next four years, compared with the company's estimate of £1.15bn. Professor Littlechild pointed out suggested the Grid price review that projected capital spending was "another TransCo". But he over the past four years, at £862m, was almost half as much as the Grid's original forecast. But the argument last night

£4bn valuation of the Grid's assets, on which the company will be allowed to earn a rate of return of between 6.5 per cent and 7.5 per cent. Mr Jones claimed the true regulatory value should have been at least £4.6bn, and admitted £200m of this related to the value of the interconnec-

tor business, the transmission

links with Scotland and France.

since 1990 and plans to cut a fur-centred on Professor Littlechild's a price tag which the Grid had agreed with Offer. The remaining £400m gap be-

tween the two sides was accounted for by the valuation the regulator placed on Energis, the Grid's telecommunications business which runs phone lines over power cables. Energis has years. The company argued the asset base excluded Energis, because no value was put on the business at the Grid's flotation.

Analysts were divided over the Energis valuation, though they were also unimpressed by the Grid's argument

The value of the chairman David Jefferies' 378,000 shares fell by £40,000 yesterday, while the paper value of his share options dropped by £48,000, Professor found Grid pay was on the whole higher than the pay of the rest of the electricity sector. ge 17 | television production output.

National Grid's operating costs the said. The Grid has reduced its devised by the gas regulator for by between 4 per cent and 6 per workforce from 5,900 to 3,500 Facia's receivers join in classic car chase

NIGEL COPE and PAUL FARRELLY

Receivers to Facia, the collapsed retail empire assembled by Stepben Hinchliffe, are trying to trace 100 company cars that were listed among the company's assets before payments can be made to creditors.
The list includes several

"classic" cars that may previ-ously have formed part of Mr Hinchliffe's own 70-strong collection of 1950s Ferraris, Aston Martins and Rolls-Royces. Mr Hinchliffe's Jade Mercedes. which features the number plate SH1, is among the assets being sought, as are two cars once used by the former chief operating officer Gary O'Brien. They are a top-of-the-range Mercedes with the number plate M1 GOB and a Vantage Vilante Aston Martin with the number plate VVI. KPMG, Facia's receivers, is

struggling to identify the location of the cars as well as which company they belong to. Their task is being complicated by the company's practice of transfer ring cars from Mr Hinchliffe's private companies to Facia and

sometimes back again. The car chase has proved so complex that KPMG has hired Charterfield, a specialist collection agent, to find them. Tony Thompson, the receiv-

er, said the motive of this asset shuffling was unclear but said it was not unusual in privately controlled companies.

The details of the missing car fleet emerged at a subdued

creditor's meeting in London yesterday called by KPMG. At the meeting, which was attended by around 30 creditors. KPMG said Facia's total debts to unsecured creditors could be as high as £70m. The figure bas been increased by a claim for £30m filed on Tuesday by Sears. the high street retailer, relating to shoe shops the company sold to Facia. But as Sears retains title to some of Facia's assets, such as shop stock, the final figure is

likely to be far lower. Facia's secured creditors. including United Mizrahi Bank which was owed £7.7m and Bank of Scotland which was owed £480,000, have been

Unsecured creditors could receive as little as a penny in the pound. Mr Thompson said be expected the surplus left after payments to secured creditors would be between £700,000 and £5.6m. Facia and the other subsidiaries in receivership are expected to be placed in

liquidation in mid-September. Neither Mr Hinchliffe nor his former finance director, Chris Harrison, was present at the meeting. Mr Hinchliffe is un-derstood to be in the US on business, while Mr Harrison was said to be in Scotland. Neither provided statutory sworn statements for the seven Facia firms in receivership in time for the meet-

ing though by law they were due within 21 days of the collapse. However, late on Monday afternoon Mr Harrison did fax an unsworn statement on Salisburys, the luggage chain, to accountants Grant Thornton which partner Maurice Withall said did not tally with his esti-

Mr Harrison did not declare £7.7m owed to United Mizrahi Bank, nor £9.7m owed to Facia Footwear, the former Sears shoe shops under separate administration by Price

Man United director transfers to Leeds

PATRICK TOOHER

The football transfer merry-goround took a new turn yesterday when Robin Launders resigned as finance director of Manchester United to join arch-rival Lecds as chief executive for an undisclosed sum.

The signing is a coup for the Yorkshire club, which was recently bought for £16.5m by the quoted medin group Caspian, and comes days after Manchester United sold its unsettled winger Lee Sharpe to Leeds for £4.5m.

exceptionally good news for Leeds and a real coup because Mr Launders is widely regarded as the man who turned around Manchester United's financial performance.

"He was the driving force behind Manchester United being floated five or six years ago and since then the company's share value has rocketed from approximately £50m to £300m."

Mr Launders helped transform Manchester United from

James Henderson, a spokes-man for Caspian, said: "This is an underperforming, family-run business into one of the most profitable brand names in the country. Last year, the Old Trafford club made a whopping £20m on sales of £60.6m four times the amount Leeds turned over.

The bulk of revenues came from off-the-field activities such as marketing and merchandising that capitalised on United's unique franchise.

All manner of goods were anded, including own-label French wine, shampoo and a

Manchester United Gameboy launched by Nintendo. Mr Launders, who will also become a main board director of Caspian, said be was looking forward to the "wider scope" and "new challenges" offered by the

chief executive's role at Leeds. "Leeds bave done very well. invested in players and are a club with great prospects. But there is still a lot to do and in my water

I know I can do something." Mr Launders played an active role in recent negotiations over screening rights for Premier

League football, which satellist? broadcaster BSkyB retained in a five-year deal worth a record £670m. He is also known to be an enthusiastic advocate of pay-per-view television, which could net top Premier League clubs

Sur

£2.5bn a year. Leeds pipped United to the League title in the 1991/92 season, but finished 13th in the Premier League last season. Manchester United, by contrast, clinched the League and FA Cup "double" in May for an unprecedented second time.

Customers back mutual status

Building society customers would rather have better interest rates than cash or share windfalls, according to a survey commissioned by Bradford & Bingley, one of the most outspoken opponents of the recent rash of demutualisations among societies, writes Steve Lodge.

Only one in five people is in favour of building societies converting into banks, falling to one in 10 if there was no windfall on offer, according to the survey. B&B found customers would want more than £3,000 each to sell out in a hostile takeover.

As well as believing societies offer better rates than banks, those surveyed said societies gave customers better service and Britain would be worse off if there were only banks.

The findings contrast sharply with the proven willingness of society customers to vote in favour of selling out to receive £500-plus windfalls, most recently in the case of National & Provincial building society, taken over by Abbey National. All the large windfall proposals announced so far have been recommended by the boards of societies.

John Wriglesworth, Bradford & Bingley's director of strategy & communications, said the survey results probably did overestimate how much cus-tomers really valued societies.

"There is a guilt thing about admitting you're greedy," he said.
But be added the results showed a strong level of cus-tomer support for the boards of societies determined to resist takeovers, which include B&B. Hostile takeovers are seen as

a distinct possibility, with Prudential, the insurer, talked of as a likely predator of Woolwich.

GDP 107.9+0.4pc 126.9 22 Aug

Dixons defends chief's pay hike

NIGEL COPE

Dixons' chairman Sir Stanley Kalms received a 29 per cent pay rise last year, taking his to-tal remuneration to £865,000. The package included a basic salary of £608,000 boosted by a £236,000 performance bonus and other taxable benefits of f21,000. Last year Sir Stanley received total pay of £669,000 including £590,000 basic salary, and a £171.000 bonus.

The pay rise caps a good year for Sir Stanley. He was knighted in the New Years Honours Sir Stanley Kalms: awarded list, then last month Dixons reported a 35 per cent rise in pretax profits to £135m. Dixons' shares have risen strongly on the back of strong sales and the nascent consumer recovery.

Dixons defended its chairman's pay-hike saying that last year he had waived a £100,000 bonus payment as inappropriate in view of the recession. It also said the company's strong performance last year under-

pinned the pay rise.
Sir Stanley joined the company when it was a one-store family business in 1948 and turned it into a FTSE100 company with a market capitalisation of £2.1bn. Dixons, whose other chains include Curry's, PC



a 29 per cent pay increase

World and The Link, has been helped by improving markets and booming sales of multi-media computers. PC World, the computer superstore group. has seen sales more than double to £262m. Comparative sales are sharply ahead with 7 million British households now

Owning a computer. Dixons shares have been one Of the main beneficiaries of a rise in consumer confidence which has also boosted shares in Kinggingisher, the Woolworths and B&Q group which also owns the Comet chain of electrical stores. Dixoos shares closed down 3p yesterday at 507p.

1996 Low Floid(*C) 3632 30 411 +0.5 FTSE 100 +14.20 +0.3 FTSE 250 1816 60 3.97 +9.20 +0.5 FTSE 350 FT Small Cap +8.67 +0.5 1791.95 3.91 1891.62 5778.00 -32.55 19724.70 0.75† 20864.95 +198.35 ±1.0 22666.8D 111<u>65.67 -16.21 -0.1</u> 2539.41 +11.23 +0.4 10204.87 3.441 2583.49 2253.36 1 91† Source: FT Information

STOCK MARKETS

INTEREST RATES oney Market Rates Long Board (Nifteen Age I Mosts I Year 6.73

Germany 3.34 3.53 May Grap to A Grap 6 6.4 Nat God 165 -10.5 6.0

Interior Change You has \$ (London) 1.5519 +0.24c 1.5533 £ (London) 0.6444 -0 10 0.6438 \$ IN Yorks 1.5505 +0.10c 1.5555 E (N York) # 0.6450 -0.04 0.6429 OM (Landon) 1.4753 -0.31af 1.4749 ¥ (London) 166.946 -Y0.578 150.223 ¥ (London) 107,575 -Y0,54 96,7150 \$ havez Testanday Day's oby That Ago hales Latent Yr New Mest Figs. Ol Breat 5 20.55 +0.32 15.91 153.0+2.1pc 149.8 15 Aug

-0.16 248 89

لفكذا من الملطن



19

teguliations

t Murdoch's

er, aimed attact attacts at television.

ailable on a

n the BBC

Flextech, the

Elbn pay-TV

two parties

confirmed

pproach is

g the BBC

possible for

f new chan-

extensive li-

ame-making ds to launch e for the inal television,

ud of 1997. the negotiaof some sort munth.

ากเการะป rogramming plations ~ rrestrial -- as tions for the

r, a deal with atingles the dd be politind miders inight that ed by John a TCL criedel

artner.

h's potential

isshares 27p

a prompted

nedict addi-

revenues for

a been seek-

partiers (ol-

seement this

STREETING.

g the corpo-

devision latinche h's efforts h

wir haint wit-

K COOK ARK

n skares with

al Pearson.

need close to

on a niki tike

of Fledech's

ten de 15 fact

icidi and t. K

dions are still

ir, with Pear-

भा अधेरद्वाद्याः १६

ति विकास सं विकास

t Pearson's

and intight.

tich sateli

il retauted in with a percent known to be

to ate of 1911.

which a could engue clubs

aged to the

Be 1001 05 hed 14th in

ed by con-

League and

HE TOP TEM 21

is: Swarded

W INCHARG

pk. his twell

ing markets

Appetts file

THE SPEC

to their de is

Salliter of the

marinalis and

der Herrichie

gains of A tive

dence which

mind at his few heighths area.

Maria Side

approved to tell:

Wind the

Ound fill

erminitale.i-

Grid looks vulnerable as watchdog locks on

Professor Stephen Littlechild has seen the | both run nationwide systems for transmis- | ing and Offer values at £400m. The actual | Clarke to pay its finance director nearly future and its and its analysis of the state of the future and it appears to be Spottiswoode coloured. There was never any doubt that the electricity industry regulator was going both run nationwise systems for transfer and on bumper profits) have come to nought.

Prof Lattlechild has concluded it is indeed. the electricity industry regulator was going to come down hard on the National Grid. But the example of his counterpart over at Ofgas, Clare Spottiswoode, has given him fresh inspiration and fresh ideas about how to apply the thumbscrews in the most unpleasant way possible

The oew price control formula proposed yesterday by Prof Littlechild for the Grid was harsher than the City had been expecting and it has duly produced the predicted howis

David Jones, the Grid's chief executive, managed to stop short of accusing the good professor of expropriating shareholders' funds - one of the many colourful charges levelled by British Gas against its regulator. But he is clearly a far from happy man. The proposals, he fulminates, are unprecedented in their severity and illogicality and amount. moreover, to penalising the business for its

The chairman of British Gas, Dick Giordano, might question the bit about them being unprecedented, but otherwise, he must be in common cause today, mourning management consultants and the Grid's own the beastly way regulators take with one hand and rob with the other.

Alas for the National Grid, alt those months spent with Offer explaining why the believe. The main dispute on asset valuation husiness is absolutely oothing tike BG's concerns its telecommunication arm, TransCo (except that both are monopoties. ! Energis, which the Grid says is worth noth-

a lot like TransCo and, like Ms Spottiswoode, he has decided to remedy the situation by recalculating the value of the regulatory asset base on which the Grid is permitted to make a return. This may sound like arcane stuff that only academics such as the professor could be bothered to speod time on but it is of critical importance to TransCo and the Grid. Prof Littlechild has decided. not unreasonably, that the worth of the Grid should bear some relation to what shareholders paid for the assets, not solely their current cost replacement value based on the figures in the accounts.

In this way the value of the business falls from £5on (the Grid's figure) to £4on (Offer's figure). Unless Mr Jones can come up with some impressive reductions in running costs, he is looking at a big hit on profits.

This is where the pincer movement takes effect. The Grid reckons it can only shave 2 per cent a year at most from operating costs. The Professor believes it can do twice as well, pointing to a legion of studies by past performance.

In reality the gulf between the two sides may not be as hig as the Grid might have us

effect of this, however, is not great - only £28m a year off operating profits of £656m. Likewise 4 per cent annual efficiency gains hardly look daunting against the 35 per cent achieved in the previous five years and the Grid's declining capital expenditure profile.

But there is a higger picture which the gridlocked Mr Jones is missing. His company s unpopular. Its boardroom excesses are legion and it needed to be dragged kicking and sceaming into giving customers a £50 rebate at the time of floration. The new price curbs, even as they stand, would only mean £4 off the average bill. Prof Littlechild is hardly likely to settle for less than that after his maladroit handling of the first electricity distribution price review.

Supposing Ms Spottiswoode stands her ground with TransCo, then Prof Littlechild's hand can only be strengthened. Grid shareholders may not like it, but they can't say they too weren't set an example. Hanson's timing in selling out at 1925p is looking better by the day.

The story about the institutional investor which sold its shares in Matthew Clark because it disapproved of excessive relocation expenses for directors is quite the most amusing financial vignette yet to have emerged from the silly season.

This is not because of the episode itself for a small cider company like Matthew

£500,000 to move house is an undeniably disgraceful episode which demands protest but because the institution involved oever publicised the matter and even now is reluctant to emerge from behind the veil. It's a hit like the terrorist bomb for which nn organisation ever claims responsibility. The public at large is led to believe there is something, somewhere that someone is not very happy about but the point is tost because nobody is prepared to stand up and be

There is a serious point to this story, however. Institutional shareholders are the only people who can actually do anything worthwhile about boardroom excess but so far they have proved remarkably reluctant to act. Fund managers have always regarded exce-utive pay as largely irrelevant to the primary objective of maximising investment returns and in any case, many of them are quite

highly paid themselves.

But things are changing. There is a growing realisation among fund managers that hoardroom excess does matter, and not just because the public at large is outraged by it or because pensioo fund trustees are beginning to demand curbs. In smaller companies. excessive executive pay can amount to a very substantial proportion of the profits. And even in larger companies it has a tendency to drag up salary levels throughout the organisation, eventually making the company uncompetitive.

If the institutions are going to have any impact, however, they really do need to start putting their mouths where their money is. The silent protest, the quick sale, may make them feel worthy, it might even satisfy the pension fund trustees, but it hardly provides the example to others that is needed if the executive feeding frenzy is to be curbed.

The European Monetary Institute, the pre-L cursor to the European central bank, today publishes its first "progress report" on the Target project. If nothing else, this shows that while British eurosceptics might cootinue to believe that the single European currency is never going to happen, or hope it won't in any case, everybody else in Europe is steaming ahead with preparations confident in the knowledge that it will.

Target, a system for settling big interbank transactions in the cure, is based targety on British expertise and structures. Just to invent the system, however, is not to participate in its workings, and beneath the picture painted in today's report of steady and harmonious progress lies a snakepit of disagreement and squabbles. The French and the Germans want EMU members to get better terms of access to intra-day credit in the Euro than those outside the new currency. The British naturally want a system that treats ins and outs the same. On this matter, there is no "progress" at

Merrill Lynch plans poaching raid on UK rivals

MATHEW HORSMAN

Merrill Lynch, the giant US investment firm, is poised to launch a large-scale poaching raid oo the staff of UK-based competitors, industry sources said yesterday, as it emerged that top media analyst Neil Blackley was leaving Goldman Sachs for Merrill Lynch at an estimated pay package worth as much as £200,000 a year.

The move was only the first in a series of expected departures from hig UK firms, as Merrill Lynch, which owns the UK stockbroker Smith New Court, aims to bolster its corporate finance and financial analysis teams in Loodon.

Sources indicated that the oils sector could be a likely target, as the US-owned firm looks to improve its research standing in those areas where it is considered weaker than the general

Mr Blackley, who takes his colleague Meg Geldens with him to Merrill Lynch, was rated fifth in the Extel survey of research this year. He and thenpartner Guy Lamming were the top rated team when they rival US firm, although it was worked for James Capel three years ago. They went to Goldman Sachs as a team in 1993, hut Mr Lamming left to join SBC-Warburg last year.

The attraction of Merrill Lynch to Mr Blackley lay in the combination of international distribution and its strong UK base through Smith New Court, sources close to the analyst said yesterday. Goldman Sachs had originally

sought the services of Mr Blackley and Mr Lamming to increase corporate finance deals in the active media sector. The high level of merger activity in the industry has led many large firms to establish dedicated and highly paid teams to co-ordinate research and to bid for corporate finance accounts. Even small boutique operations have beefed up their commitment to

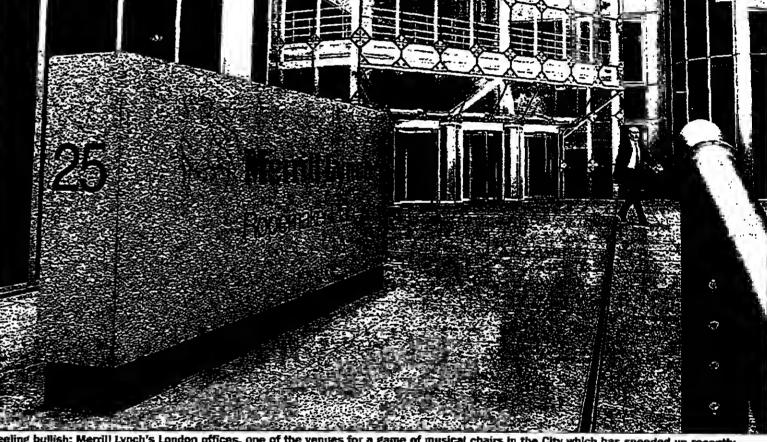
Mr Blackley was believed to have been in discussions about becoming a partner at Goldman Sachs. It was suggested yester-day that his package at Merrill Lynch was far less than he stood to gain by staying at the

unclear whether a partnership had been formally offered. Goldman sources indicated

vesterday that the departure had been amicable. "We were sorry to see him go - he's a good lad." one source said. The firm intends to mount an international search for a replacement, and confirmed yesterday that it continued to view media as a core sector.

The game of musical chairs in the City has heated up in recent months, with Mr Blackley's or at Merrill Lynch Richard Dale, jumping ship with his partner David Forster to join Salomon Brothers earlier this year for a package es-timated at £500,000 a year for the two. Merrill Lynch, which struggled for several months to replace the highly rated Dale-Forster team, has been particularly active in the head-hunting market, pinehing Stephen Reitman, the highly rated au-tomotive analyst at UBS, ear-lier this year. Said a Merrill insider: "You can be sure there

will be more announcements." The top media slot at Merrill had been left vacant for severbetween headquarters and the sought to regain the advantage,



Feeling bullish: Merrill Lynch's London offices, one of the venues for a game of musical chairs in the City which has speeded up recently.

al mooths, following the de-parture of Messrs Dale and Forster, who had balked at the beavy hand of the New York in the year. office and the resulting friction

Survival for insurers: Soft markets and link-ups are likely to increase competition

Smith New Court rump. Their resignations coincided with a minor flood of departures early

Merrill Lynch subsequently

signalling it would spend freely to develop leading edge research capabilities. "We want the lot," said a company insider.

The campaign to secure fresh talent is being viewed by some

per cent to 7.8p, out of which an interim dividend of 3.75p

The figures were below

there was disappointment that

carnings growth was not com-

revenues, these are flat, while

flat UK revenues were made

Willis Corroon has declared

that it is ready to positively re-

organise itself to grow in soft

markets, but there has been no

such clear message from Sedgwick, Mr Savage said. Sedgwick's brokerage and

fee income rose from £451m to

£467m in the half-year, a 1 per

cent rise in constant currency

terms, while expenses were

cut by 1 per cent on the same

haocement of 0.75p.

City observers as slightly desperate. The critics suggest the large US firm has yet to soothe the tensions between its New month on "garden leave", and York managers and the UK will join his new firm toward the staff, particularly those who end of September.

IN BRIEF

remain from the Smith New Mr Blackley is to spend a

General **Cable** extends network

MATHEW HORSMAN Media Editor

Losses at Geoeral Cable, the UK cable operator, deepened in the first half of 1996 to £12.6m from £10.9m last year. as the company continued to build its extensive octwork. But Sir Anthony Cleaver, com-pany chairman, said that average revenues per line were being maintained at the level achieved in the first quarter of

General Cable also welcomed the Office of Fair Tradg's ruling on satellite broadcaster BSkyB's supply of pro-gramming to the cable industry. Sir Anthony said that cable-exclusive programming, offering products not available on satellite, and additional ATM switching technology, would improve the company's penetration of the market. The new pricing regime would also enable cable operators to undercui BT

Comcast Partners, meanwhile, reported consolidated revenues of £11.8m in the six months to Juoc, up from £653,000 last time. The consolidated operating cash-flow deficit was £3.6m.

Comcast UK's cable lines currently pass more than 837,000 homes, and itscable-TV subscribers have increased by 38 per cent, the residential telephony subscribers by 55 per cent and the business telephony subscribers by 39 per cent. The company has interests in four integrated cable televi-sion, residential telephony and business telephony systems in the UK; together these could serve approximately 1.6 million



In focus: GA's chief executive, Bob Scott (right), being photographed with newly appointed group executive director Philip Twyman Photograph: Andrew Burman

General Accident dismisses worries about takeovers

MAGNUS GRIMOND

General Accident, the Perthbased general and life insurer, yesterday dismissed any sugsestioo that recent mergers in the industry would increase competition. Bob Scott, chief executive, said consolidationhad been a factor in the UK for years. "It won't change the dynamics of the industry. We're competing in segments of the market against some pretty small in-

surance companies."

General Accident's cost structure would be competitive, he said. The group plans to replace all existing computer systems with an integrated package and hive off computer operations to a new IBM subsidiary dedicated to insurance. The husiness will be based on GA's

350 computer employees. Mr Scott spoke as analysts raised profit expectations for the group, prompting a 14p rise in the shares to 678p. Reduced weather losses in the second quarter helped GA claw back some of the damage inflicted by severe conditions across the world in the first three months of the year, although profits before investment gains still slipped from £257m to £194m in the first-half year 10 Jone. Steven Bird at brokers Merrill Lynch said he was raising his

with net assets per share ex-

pected to hit 680p by the year end, up from 657p currently. The group had had a good secood quarter, he said, al-

though he cautioned that reserve movements meant too much should not be read into one quarter's figures.

GA said the integration of Provident Mutnal, acquired earlier this year, was going faster than expected. The field organisation was nearly

force had already been integrated and the head office recomplete, resulting in 620 staff departures. Integration and transitional costs were now likely to be about £20m this full year forecast to £411m, year, £5m less than expected.

Sedgwick says merger would be considered

MAGNUS GRIMOND

is being paid, including a for-eigo income dividend en-Sedgwick, the world's third largest insurance broker, vesterday denied recent speculatioo that it was ready to merge market expectations and the shares fell 5p to 125p yester-day. Robio Savage at brokers Credit Lyonnais Laing said with rival Willis Corroon, but said further industry consoli-dation was inevitable.

Sax Riley, chief executive, said the group would consider a merger if the strategy of ing through from top line growth. "If you look at the US a potential partner matched their own plans. We continue to believe there is room for three or four global players ... It could be construed that up for by growth in Eorope and the Far East." there are six people [in the market] at the moment."

The cake had got smaller and the margins thinner, Mr Riley said, but Sedgwick would be able to maintain its independent existence. The key to the future would be having control of their own distribution network and owning a large commodity brokerage husiness. "We can survive oo our own...because we are well down the way, oo our own

basis. Sedgwick Noble Lowndes, the employee benefits and strategy and we are using our own network," he added.

The comments came as financial services operations. saw underlying trading profits rise 12 per cent to £7.4m. But Sedgwick warned that insurthe increase would have been ance rates had continued to tumble in most parts of the cut to 2 per cent if a £700,000 world. Mr Riley said the combenefit on the sale of a US third party administration company pany would take a view oo is stripped out.
Mr Riley said he was more rates for the rest of the year in November, although they

confident about the UK part "remained confident of the final outcome for the full year". of the husiness than he had heen for a very long time. The aim was to raise the propor-The tough trading condi-tions pegged Sedgwick's pre-lax profits to £64.1m in the tion of group income from half-year to June, a 2 per cent consultancy and other fees to Investment column, page 18 od Earnings per share rose 6.8 the current 35 per cent.

 The value of July retail sales rose 5.4 per cent on a like-for-like basis from a year earlier, according to the latest monthly survey by the British Retail Consortium. Although the growth rate of sales values was more moderate than in the previous two months, the underlying trend remains healthy, the BRC said. It noted that non-food sectors "generally performed better" than food in July, with sales of ice cream and soft drinks hit by the "mixed weather". Clothing and footwear sales were "relatively strong", and housing-related retail sectors were strong. BRC chief economic advisor Andrew Seotance said that better consumer spending, and a pick-up in the world economy, "should feed through into better growth in the economy as a whole later this year.

Renault, the French car-maker, reported a slide io first-half turnover but the decline was less pronounced than investors had feared after recent disappointing European and French car sales figures. Renault said group sales slipped 2.9 per cent to FF94.09bn FF96.208 bn. Renault's shares hit an all-time low of FF30.300 FF30.200 on. Remaint's snares int an au-time low of FF107 recently after June car sales figures showed its European market share had slipped to 9.6 per cent from 11.1 per cent in 1995 and its share of the French market to 26.5 per cent from 31.7 per cent.Renault's Laguna and recently launched Megane models have a higher ticket price than the smaller Clio and Twingo. Fujitsu of Japao said it obtained a US patent for its technology used for plasma display panels for large-sized TV screens. Fujitsu also said it plans to charge Japanese and Korean companies making PDPs in the U.S. for the rights. The technology is used to display colours with thick and thin tones on the screen, it said. Fujitsu also is seeking to obtain patents for the same technolo-

The disruption caused by the threatened all-out strike by British Airways' pilots cost BA £10m, not BAA as may have been inferred from yesterday's report on page 17.

 Norway's Den norske Bank realised profits after taxes of NK 1.51 billion in the first half of 1996, compared with NK 1.67 billion in the corresponding period of last year. Net interest income totalled NK 2.1 billion in the first half of the year, compared with NK 2.13 billion in the first half of 1995. Net other operating income totalled NK 1.48 billion in the first half of the year, as against NK 1.43 billion in the same period of last year.

•Consumer prices in the US rose moderately in July, the Labor Department said, providing further evidence that inflationary pressures at the retail level are still largely muted. The consumer price index rose 0.3 per cent in the month following a 0.1 per cent rise in June as food and housing costs offset declines in energy. The rise was not a cause for big concern on the inflation front, Lewis Alexander, chief economist at the Commerce Department, said. "Any time inflation ticks up it is a source of contern, but I think if you look into the details of it, I think it's a little less alarming.

Average weekly earnings of US workers, after adjusting for in-*Average weekly earnings of US workers, after adjusting for inflation and seasonal factors, fell 1.5 per cent in July, the Labor Department said. The July drop followed a 2.2 per cent rise in June real average weekly earnings. The July decrease stems from a 1.2 per cent drop in average weekly hours, n 0.2 per cent decline in average hourly earnings and a 0.2 per cent increase in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers. Real average weekly earnings in July were off 0.4 rise on the comparable peri50 per cent of the total from | cal Workers. Real average weekly earnings in July were off 0.4 percent from July last year, the department said.

GA set to weather stormy times

have marked time in 1996. But yesterday's first-half figures to June tend to support the group's own confidence that it can survive the onset of leaner times for the industry.

Stripping out realised investment gains, operating profits slid a quarter to £194m. However, much of the damage was weather-related, which has not been repeated in the second threemonths of the year. This improvement helps to explain the better underwriting result this year (see table), particularly in the UK even if storms in the Mid-West of the US continued to be a drag on second-quarter results. In all, weather cost an extra £56m in the half weather cost an extra £55m in the half year, with US property accounts alone deteriorating by \$49m. Weather lies outside the control of

deteriorating by \$49m.

Weather lies outside the control of the insurance industry, so more enconraging were signs that, despite increasing competition, recent rate rises are sticking. First-half increases in the personal motor husinesses ranged. creasing competition, recent rate rises are sticking. First-half increases in the personal motor businesses ranging from 410 6 per cent helped turn a £9m underwriting loss in the first quarter

into a modest £1m profit in the second. The outlook for motor also looks reasonable. Despite these rate rises, GA has put on a further 25,000 clients in the six months, taking the total to 725,000, and is experiencing an 87 per cent renewal rate in its direct operation. A further 3.5 per cent hike in commercial motor, taking the rise for the year to 9.5 per cent, should also go some way to reversing the deteriorating trend there.

More worrying are the prospects for the UK household account, where GA warned that there are few signs of any rate increases. Indeed, more competition is hitting intermediaries' commissions, if not yet rates themselves.

But the excitement in GA at the moment lies on its life side. The integration of Provident Mutual, acquired in a £170m deal at the turn of the year, is going ahead faster than expected. The life assurer chipped in an unexpected £5m to the latest figures, with the costs of the merger lower and savings higher than originally forecast. The group remains on the lookout for fur-ther life acquisitions in Europe.

GA has proved canny in managing its existing UK life operation. Low past payout levels mean the fund has a surplus of over £1bn, at least part of which should eventually benefit shareholders.

Whether continued attempts to save costs, now to involve outsourcing all computer operations to a new IBM insurance subsidiary, will match savings from the Sun Alliance-Royal Insurance

The stock market has been anticipating a downturn in the insurance cycle for some time and, after last year's bumper results, shares in General Accident

EDITED BY TOM STEVENSON

walne of the company at not much mure than 100-110p per share. A takeover is possible but packaging company at not much mure than 100-110p per share. A takeover is of the market to see cannot be a share to see cannot

GENERAL ACCIDENT : AT A GLANCE

merger remains to be seen. In the flexible packaging business three years meantime, the shares, up 14p at 678p, stand on a forward yield of 6.1 per cent assuming Merrill Lynch's dividend forecast is met. A firm hold.

New head **boosts Sidlaw**

appointed a new chief executive. John

owned packaging group. With 30 years in the industry he is clearly experienced but he remains something of a dark horse in the City, mainly because he has never heen a director of

a public company.

The company has been in a terrible bind since it spent £79m on Courtaulds'

Underwriting results (Em)

Trading record

Pre-tax profits (£m)

ago. Having been criticised for overpaying, the company was hit by soaring raw material prices. It also chased

volume, neglecting margins.
Two rights issues followed, one at 275p and another at 180p, and shareholders who took up their rights at those prices are no doubt feeling aggrieved. It was problems in packaging, including costs associated with the clo-sure of a factory, that forced Sidlaw into

a £4m loss at the half-year stage.

A trading update accompanied yesterday's chief executive appointment and it did contain some good news. The group was profitable in the three

The oil services division may be sold off which would reduce gearing. It a highly regarded business though some analysts question whether it is capable of dramatic growth.

Panmure Gordon puts the hreak-up

Share price perice

two-thirds of their value in the last two years and it looks like a long slog back.
Plugged in Pifco builds up steam

pacity dropping out of the market rather than paying for it themselves.

Analysts are expecting pre-excep-tional profits of around £1.1-£1.2m this

year. But the shares have lost more than

A 16 per cent jump in Pifeo's pre-tax profits for the year to April from £2.7m to £3.12m showed the small appliance manufacturer is back on track after last year's disappointment. Despite chair-man Michael Webber's perennial cau-

coming from the oil services division tion, consumer confidence is plainly which is performing well. Trading at the packaging division remains patchy.

The challenge for Mr Durston is to create more shareholder value in a packaging market that is over-created.

The challenge for Mr Durston is to create more shareholder value in a packaging market that is over-created. products are essential, new geographical markets a help, and acquisitions are realistically the only way to provide economies of scale and wide-brand portfolios that will drive up margin growth.

No surprise then that after being left at the altar last year by a French hairdryer maker, Pico is now actively seeking another deal, probably in Europe where it intends to generate half its sales, compared with the current 28 per cent of sales.

With £6.4m in the bank and a willingness to take on dehts and issue new shares, there is plainly the scope to tackle a sizeable purchase. And with the successful integration of Russel Hubbs Tower a few years ago, Pifco has proved it does possess the management bility to take on a hig challenge.

On the new product front, the introduction of new, patented, printed element technology for the 25 million-a-year world kettle market augurs well. Noticeably faster, more energy efficient and less prone to limescale than the traditional kettle, the new product can be expected to take a good slice of the 5 million UK market after it is introduced in September.

Forecasts for the current year of about £3.4m, for earnings of 18.9p, put the shares, up 5p to 269p, on a prospec-tive price/earnings ratio of 14. That suggests that the company is solid and well-managed, but compared with a relatively pedestrian growth rate of 7 per

The building societies that definitely said 'No'

CITY DIARY

JOHN WILLCOCK

Poor nld Michael Hardern, self-employed butler and founder of "Members for Conversion", a ginger group for building society members who want remaining societies to convert to plc status and shower their customers with the resulting cash handouts. Mr Hardern has been un-

ceremoniously booted out by Bradford & Bingley, Chelsea, Nottingham and Britannia. His crime? For being

nothing but a nuisance, a troublemaker, a waster of members' money," according to B&B director John Wriglesworth. Mr Hardern describes his

expulsion as a member by the quartet as "outrageous. It's all very sad. Another demo-cratic institution that doesn't want its members to participate in the running of it."

Mr Hardern's campaign came to a head when he asked the Building Society Commission for access to membership lists of all 52 remaining mutuals. The BSC turned him down, and Mr Wriglesworth's battalions took their cue, sending back whatever money (with interest) Mr Hardern had deposited with them, and informing him his custom was no longer welcome. "He's just after a quick buck." Mr Wriglesworth concluded.

Even for the hardened professionals, Facia's creditors meeting in London yesterday



Getting tough: John Wriglesworth and B&B colleagues

was a pretty staid affair despite fresh Serious Fraud Of-fice interest. The company's receiver, KPMG's Tony Thompson, had a dry run rehearsal beforehand, practising 160 of the trickiest likely questions. In the event, the massed ranks of KPMG, Grant Thornton and lawyers Nabarro Nathanson had to deal with just one query, without a scream or u tantrum in the house.

There was hardly an actual creditor to be seen. A few suppliers, yes, who had (literally) lost their shirts, or several thousand quid to Facia's chairman Stephen Hinchliffe. Most of the 80 or so there were fellow accoun-

Congratulations to Christopher Sheridan, former deputy chairman and chief executive of Samuel Montagu, one of the very few people in the City to reach the top of a merchant bank from starting as a humble forex trader.

Mr Sheridan retired from the HSBC-owned bank two years ago and has just been elected a non-executive director of City

law firm Lovell White Durrant. The 53-year-old Twickenham rugby fan adds this to a clutch of other non-exec directorships, including Yorkshire Building Society and Prudential-Backe International Bank.

Law firms are keen to grab top City types for their boards these days, as their share of corporate work increases. In the 25 years he was there Mr Sheridan built Samuel Montagu into one of the best foreign exchange operations in the City. For all that he is a "very modest chap", according to City colleagues.

tants, in fact, vulturing for the liquidation joh once the receivers had finished recov-

ering the banks' dehts. On the circuit, apparently, these professional meeting goers are known as the "98 club" (after section 98 of the Insolvency Act). Section 98 enables creditors to convene a meeting to appoint a liq-uidator. Ambulance chasers, then, by another name.

Many Scots have sailed off to the distant shores of Australia over the last two centuries. Now quite a few of them are coming back. Bob Scott, chief executive

of General Accident, has just recruited a fellow native of Sydney, Philip Twyman, as a group executive director in charge of finance.

Mr Scott admits that both come from Australian-Scottish stock, and both hale from the same Antipodean city - but that the link ends there. They did not know each other down under, and it's not an Ozzic plot to take over the Perth-based insurer. The link grows stronger.

GA has just sent a Scot, Hector Smith, to Australia to run the company's business there.

290 (2.90) Epwin Group (1) 2.0m (2.6m) 194m (257m) 49.3p (44.5p) -12.6m (-10.9m) -4.7p (-4.5p) 30.1m (14.2m) Pffco (F) 41.8m (37 4m) 3.1m (2.7m) 17.6p (16p) 64 tm (63.1m) 7.8p (7.3p) 3.75p (3p) 1 65m (1.31m) 15.62p (12 66p) 5.2p (4 75p) 64.1m (54.3m)

BOC forecasts reined back after warning

TOM STEVENSON

A veiled profits warning from BOC yesterday sent shares in the gases and healthcare group tumbling 40p. or 4 per cent, to 855p. The company's warning of problems in its vacuum products and healthcare husinesses had analysts reaching for their red pens and reining back forecasts by almost 10 per cent. The company said some semi-

conductor manufacturers, who are hig customers of BOC's Edwards Vacuum Products subsidiary, were reappraising expansion plans. But BOC confirmed its faith in the long-

term prospects for the industry. Analysis took a less sanguine view: "What BOC has delivered at today's meeting is effectively a profits warning", one said. Consensus forecasts for the year to September fell from about £450m to between £438m.

and £440m. For the year to September 1997 forecasts of £505m were replaced by a range of £460m to £470m.

The company also flagged problems at its Ohmeda healthcare business which makes the Forane anaesthetic, and saw profits fall 27 per cent in the third quarter to June. For the nine-month period to that date. profits were 15 per cent lower. Danny Rusenkrantz, the chief executive, who took over

from Pat Rich at the beginning of the year, said third-quarter price competition in the anaesthetic product market "was very acute", affecting profitability for its Forane product. Prices fell faster than the group anticipated, be said, and "are set

fourth quarter. The news took the edge off group profits for the nine months, which managed an 11 per cent rise to £327.3m on an

to deteriorate further" in the

8 per cent increase in turnover to £2.99bn. Higher profits were driven by an 11 per cent rise in the core gases husiness as margins improved in most regions.

BOC is huilding a 1,290tonnes-a-day oxygen and nitrogen plant in India which it hopes will give it a toehold in the east of the sub-continent. The company has also made its first move into the Russian industrial gases market with a conditional agreement to acquire a

controlling interest in Volgograd Oxygen, one of Russia's top three industrial gases companies.

Despite the warning on future prospects, vacuum products actually had a strong third quar-ter with profits 35 per cent higher, or 37 per cent up in the year so far.

BOC said it was considering listing its shares on the New York Stock Exchange through an ADR programme. Trading could start in late September.



An 8 page section covering vital issues in accountancy, public sector finance and the legal profession with pages of appointment opportunities

> See pages 16 - 23 section two

To book your advertisement call The Finance & Legal Team on 0171 293 2310

Every Wednesday in the

THE INDEPENDENT section two

Rathbone acquires Liverpool broker

NIC CICUTTI

Rathbone Brothers, the quoted management group, yesterday agreed takeover terms worth one of Liverpool's oldest stock-

brnking firms.

The combined company will have more than £2.3hn in discretionary funds under management, plus a further £1.5bn in advisory funds, of which £300m are held in personal equity plans. The deal will also allow Rath-

bones to develop its coverage outside its traditional London and Liverpool heartlands into the South and North-west of England, together with Scotland. Micky Ingall, chief executive at Rathbones, said: "Taken with the acquisition of Lawrence Keen [the stockbrokers] last year, this will meet our core objective of building a major business group specialising in the provision of investment man-

agement and banking services for private investors, their trusts "Discretionary management will continue to be the major business activity, together with a range of complementary services, including banking, stockbroking, trust and company management and financial

Mr Ingall added that Neilson Cobbold, which achieved profits of £942,000 on turnover of £4.8m in the six months to 31 March, was not expected to



By popular demand: Skoda cars helped WV to increase European market share

Healthy worldwide sales fuel VW profits surge

ELISABETH KLEIN

Volkswagen, Europe's largest car-maker, yesterday reported a huge leap in first-half net profits of DM282m (£123m), up 150 per cent from the same

Haus-Peter Blechinger, a spokesman for VW, said: "Increased sales of 14 per cent and strong earnings on financial services are the roots of the good results.

"Although competition in the market for small cars has increased incredibly, we were able to raise our share of the market in Europe from 16.7 contribute significantly to the en-larged group in 1996. Full ben-efits would flow through in 1997. I with our competitors we did was helow average. But in

outstandingly well." The German car-maker, which includes the Czech Skoda manufacturer, said that group income 36 per cent," Mr Blechinger from ordinary activities, the main benchmark used by industry analysts to evaluate the company, rose 45 per cent to DM891m from DM616m last

year. Volkswagen's worldwide deliveries to customers rose by 12.6 per cent to 2 million vebicles in the period. But the car-maker is losing

market share in its very own and biggest market, Germany, which accounts for 25 per cent of tutal sales. Here market share fell by 1.5 per cent to 27.3

per cent.
"Our German performance

the growth markets such as Asia or South-America we realised growth rates up to

Volkswagen was happy with its performance in the UK market. Mr Blechinger said: We improved our market share in Britain from 4.0 per cent in the first half of 1995 to 5.41 per cent in the same period this year. This is a fantastic result - but we won't be satisfied with it for long."

Volkswagen is currently at the centre of a row between the European Union and the state of Saxony over subsidies worth hillions of deutschmarks for constructing a new car-plant

IN BRIEF

 Persona Group, the distributor of computer networks, communications and Unix products, saw its shares jump 28p to 313p after it announced a 30 per cent increase in earnings per share to 8.97p for the six months to June. Figures for the first half were heavily distorted by the acquisition at the beginning of the year of Top Log, the French computer distributor. Turnover of £65.2m in the half-year was 165 per cent higher than in 1995 and pretax profits 133 per cent hetter at £3.15m. Even at the underlying level, however, sales rose 38 per cent suggesting still strong or-ganic growth. Wayne Channon, chairman, said: "We are pleased with the substantial progress we have made, in particular the signing of major vendors in France - these include 3Com, Bay Networks, Compaq, Microsoft and Netscape. I believe the group is stronger than it has ever been, both financially and commercially. and look forward to the future with confidence."

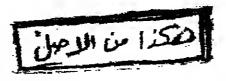
 De Beers said yesterday the Central Selling Organisation, which manages the bulk of the world's diamond sales, had been able to push prices 3 per cent higher since July, thanks to strong demand for larger stones. The increase for stones above one carat averaged 7 per cent. The retail diamond jewellery markets contimed to report satisfactory sales, De Beers said, and the out-look remained positive. De Beers' comments accompanied the results for the six months to June, which showed an 18 per cent rise in attributable earnings to US\$482m and a 5.5 per cent rise in the dividend to 27 cents per linked unit. There were improvements in the diamond accounts of both De Beers and Centenary and investment income benefited from a substantial increase in the Anglo American Corporation dividend payout.

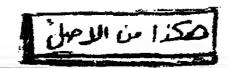
 Louis Vaitton Moet Hennessy, the luxury goods company recorded flat sales in the first-half, mainly due to currency fluctuations. and a fall in sales at the Cognac and spirits division. Group sales in the six months to June were FFr13.38bu compared to FFr13.34 achieved in the same period last year. Cognac total sales rose by 13 per cent but the product mix is thought to remain unfavourable. Sales fell in the perfumes and beauty products division hit by in-

· Epwin, a maker of PVC huilding products, warned that trading in the remainder of the year would remain "demanding" af-ter the company unveiled first-half profits cut from £2.63m to £2.02m. The group said that the results were in line with expectations and included £200,000 in redundancy costs, a sum which it hoped to recoup by the year-end. The group's working capital has been reduced, with a cut in borrowings of about £1m. The full year figures should see a return to the more traditional second-half bias, Epwin said. Meanwhile, the earnings per share fell from 8.2p to 6p, out of which an unchanged interim dividend of 2.9p is being paid.

• TB1 said all conditions relating to the acquisition of Belfast International Airport have now been either satisfied or waived. It said the acquisition is now unconditional in all respects and has been completed.

 Bellway is to be promoted to the FTSE250 index following the £1.67bn takeover of Southern Water by Scottish Power. The househuilder has a market value of just under £300m.





STAY II AUGUST Per



s, in fact, vulturar, for handation promise the sivers had timehed room. in the banks' debts. se professional meeting 5" infer section 'S of the deeney Act). Seeming 8 district to convene seeting to appoint a laplator. Ambidance chases, another a suc

the Algeria state of the We carr the last two cars Plate New quite a law of ers are covering back Bob Scott, chief or conte. General Association Language granted a feifen perm, of they Philip Town as a woo executive de la com MAPRO OF SEC. 116 Mr Scott and do the tolk one Roun Americk of Sale which and have with the same with a dist by but that the edge the well office than the con-Paged on the service of The had grown SA has pust on the like the company

spanning attended to Victor

printect ter with many Belle Sand of the Share Street Street

M dem par segment the support the M. E.D. (200) OF COURT SETS many constraints

finally results

finally results

finally results

finally results

finally results

THE PARTY OF fashe: wheels per time (Bearing) herelaid en der in permit

And the state of t

Sa hall build Spir trans. prin heat war Sphares 12

DATA BANK

FT-SE 100 3823.4+20.1 FT-SE 250

4346.1+14.2

1914.3 +9.2

SEAQ VOLUME

688m shares,

93.68 +0.22

Gifts Index

30,308 bargains

FT-SE 350

market report/shares

Dairy shares cream off profit on OFT rumours

Hopes the Office of Fair Trading is about to call for curbs on Milk Marque offered dairy shares their own "milky way". Northern Foods improved 3p to 196p and Unigate 6p to 433p. Robert Wiseman, the Scottish milk supplier, gained

4p to 170p.
The OFT has been probing the milk industry and, in particular, milk prices, for some time. The stock market suggestion was it would prononnce this week but a spokesman would only say a re-port would be out "shortly".

The milk industry has complained bitterly about the prices charged by Milk Marque, the nation's largest supplier which replaced the Milk Marketing Board three

Board three years ago. Although milk prices have

ganisation's near monopolistic role.

The leading dairies have had to contend with a sharp fall in door-to-door deliveries although there have been some signs of a recovery. As doorstep deliveries have fallen super-

market sales have soared. Northern and Unigate have been hit by the changes in the milk industry and undergone enforced restructurings. Four years ago Northern's shares topped 300p. Profits subsequently fell from £157.2m to £16.4m. Last year the group achieved £119.8m and this year stockbroker Mees Pierson is tooking for £137m with around £150m next.

The rest of the market re-Board three years ago.

Although milk prices have been reduced, the cuts have been modest and the dairies believe they do not reflect the state of the market 18 turned to more cheerful ways, ignoring early falls in New York. The FT-SE blue chip index rose 20.1 points to 3.823.4p, only 33.7 from the state of the market 18 turned to more cheerful ways, ignoring early falls in New York. The FT-SE blue chip index rose 20.1 points to 3.823.4p, only 33.7 from the state of the market 18 turned to more cheerful ways, ignoring early falls in New York. The FT-SE blue chip index rose 20.1 points to 3.823.4p, only 33.7 from the state of the market 18 turned to more cheerful ways, ignoring early falls in New York. The FT-SE blue chip index rose 20.1 points to 3.823.4p, only 33.7 from the state of the market 18 turned to more cheerful ways, ignoring early falls in New York. The FT-SE blue chip index rose 20.1 points to 3.823.4p, only 33.7 from the state of the market 18 turned to more cheerful ways, ignoring early falls in New York. The FT-SE blue chip index rose 20.1 points to 3.823.4p, only 33.7 from the state of the market 18 turned to more cheerful ways, ignoring early falls in New York. The FT-SE blue chip index rose 20.1 points to 3.823.4p, only 33.7 from the state of the market 18 turned to more cheerful ways, ignoring early falls in New York. The FT-SE blue chip index rose 20.1 points to 3.823.4p, only 33.7 from the state of the market 18 turned to more cheerful ways, ignoring early falls in New York. The FT-SE blue chip index rose 20.1 points to 3.823.4p, only 33.7 from the state of the market 18 turned to more cheerful ways, ignoring early falls in New York. The FT-SE blue chip index rose 20.1 points to 3.823.4p, only 33.7 from the state of the market 18 turned to more cheerful ways, ignoring early falls in New York. The FT-SE blue chip index rose 20.1 points to 3.823.4p, only 33.7 from the state 20.1 points to 3.823.4p, only 33.7 from the state 20.1 points to 3.823.4p, only 33.7 from the state 20.1 points to 3.823

MARKET REPORT DEREK PAIN Stock market reporter

points to 4,346.1, its 10th suc-Hopes of lower interest rates continued to provide much of the inspiration. A sudden realisation that institutions are nursing vast cash hoards also helped sentiment. National Grid failed to join

in the fun. The stronger-thanexpected restrictions proposed by industry regulator, Profes-sor Stephen Littlechild, sent the shares back to their low, off 10p at 165p. The proposals, if they go through, damage the Grid's prospects for increasing

The share price fuse puts Hanson in a favourable light.

of the year them still on James Capel's books, at 192.5p. Hanson, of course, has fared less well with

its proposed four-way demerger. Tomorrow, with its third-quarter figures, it is expected to offer an upbeat break up statement. The shares firmed to 166p.

BTR was another conglom-erate looking a shade perkier. Its shares gained 5.5p to 264.5p. injecting some life into its weary warrants. This year's play rose

3pto 10p and next year's 3.75p to 25.25p. Both offer the right to buy shares at 258p. BOC's results clipped the shares 42p to 853p. Cookson was caught in the BOC slip-

Bruce MacDonald of NatWest And Tom Cobleigh, the pubs Securities added to Cookson's discomfort by repeating his sell advice although Geoff Allum, who left Nat West to join Henderson Crosthwaite, rates the shares a buy.

National Westminster Bank was the best performing blue chip, up 18.5p to 680p. Other banks were strong but Nat West enjoyed the added benefit of Chartered Institute of Bankers report saving it had the largest share of the UK corporate market.

Rank Organisation improved 10p to 461p as Hen-derson described its new strategy as "realistic and logi-cal" but British Biotech continued to suffer from the Crédit Lyonnais Laing sell advice, falling 11p to 204p. There is talk of a target price of 150p. Stockbroker Neilson Cobhold collapsed 75p to 330p as the agreed Rathbone Brothers

chain, gained 5p (after 10p) to 228p with Yates, the wine lodge chain, and First Leisure emerging as favourites to bid. Horace Clarkson, the ship-

broker, held at 101p although an 8.5 per cent share sale was revealed. James Cropper, the paper group, rose 23p to 350p as it enjoyed its best ever quarter's trading. Sidlaw, the packaging and oil services group. gained 12p to 108p; an upbeat trading statement was accompanied by the appointment of John Durston, ex-Lawson

Mardon, as chief executive. Flextech added 27p to 501p on its planued UK Gold and UK Living deals and joint TV

ventures with the BBC. Newcomer Chemical Design continued to find support. The shares rose 12p to 145p. They were placed at 110p. Yorkshire Foods plunged 23p to 49p following the warnTalk AIM is suffering from new issue fatigue has not been supported this week. After Chemical Design's impressive debnt, Gall Thomson Environmental, a marine couplings group, stretched to 61p from a 50p placing and

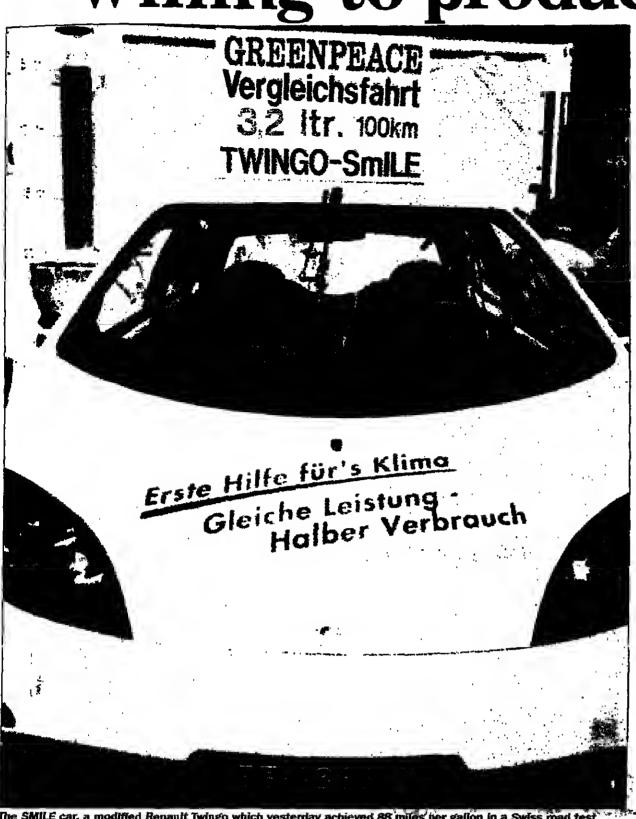
TAKING STOCK

removing minor car dents. went from 3p to 4p. The trio should offer comfurt for companies still working their way to AIM although a number of flotations have been

Pan Andean Resources fell 7p to 111p as BHP confirmed it intends to drill on the Chapare Block in Bolivia this year. A report by resource ex-perts David Wiltiamson Associates says if the well "live up to expectations, its value to PAR could approach £5 a share, whereas a dry bole would doubtless result in a

		ASCHOUFMANIJA	state of the market. They are also unhappy about the or-	peak hit in April. The sup- porting 250 index put on 14.2	Hanson in a favourable light. It sold its Grid shares, many of	was caught in the BOC slip- stream, falling 9p to 257p.	the agreed Rathbone Brothers bid came in below expectations.	23p to 49p following the warning about second half profits. considerable market setback".
Ģ		### Add Democratic Section 48	15	22	1995	288 51 Count Dat 588 04 273 341 347 Count Dat 588 104 273 341 347 Count Dat 588 104 273 341 347 Count Dat 588 104 273 351 477 Count Anster 588 1 1 202 351 477 Count Anster 588 1 1 202 351 58 Count Dat 588 1 1 202 351 58 Francisco 10 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	### Republication ### Republic	Share Price Data Prices are in sterling except where stated. The yield is but your bravalent, growsed to try. To per cert, as a percentage of the share price. The price-learnings IP E1 ratio at this thurse price divided by last your is earnings per share, excluding exceptional items. Other default is Excipted at Ex at a Unisted Securities Muthal 8. Siz per Not per Party Pad pm Mil Paul Shares 1 Alli Stock. The Independent Index. The index allows you 66 eccess real-time share prices by phone from Shau, Sarphy Julius 123 335 followed by the 4-digit code printed near to each share. To access the later innerced innerced reports dail 0831 1233 followed by one of the two-digit coder below. FT-SE 100 - Real-time 00 Sterling Rates 04 Private short inserts. In UK Stock Market Report 01 Bullon Report 05 Water Shares 10 UK Company News 02 What St Report 05 Electricity Shares 10 Foreign Exchange 03 Tokye Market 21 High Street Burks 41 Anyone with a tone-dial telephone can use this service For a defaulted description of This todependent index, including its portfolio dischip, phone 0331 123 333 Foreignedant index, including its portfolio dischip, phone 0331 123 333 Foreignedant index, including its portfolio dischip, phone 0331 123 333 Foreignedant index, including its portfolio Stock 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10
10年代の大学の大学の大学の大学の大学の大学の大学の大学の大学の大学の大学の大学の大学の	ל	B' Since Bath B' 10 08 45 09 17 18 57 58 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18	3-95 (20) Northermor 207 (1) 79 (25) 55 (2) 22 (2) 22 (2) 23 (2) 24 (2) 25 (2) 27 (2) 24 (2) 25 (2) 27 (2) 24 (2) 25 (2) 27 (2) 24 (2) 25 (2)	Columbia	SOU SOU Control to SOU SOU	231 204 Southers 27 +1 22 42 523 223 225 225 225 225 225 225 225 22	288	Section Column
		271 \$55 Beauty Current \$19 +0 22 C0 0 000 281 47 Beauty State 11 2 00 000 291 47 Beauty State 12 2 00 000 291 491 Beauty State 12 2 00 000 291 491 Beauty State 12 2 00 000 291 491 Beauty State 12 2 00 000 292 491 Beauty State 292 40 00 000 293 40 Carefully State 12 2 00 000 294 491 State 12 2 00 000 295 50 Carefully State 12 2 00 000 295 50 Carefully State 12 2 00 000 296 50 Carefully State 12 2 00 000 297 50 Carefully State 12 2 00 000 298 50 Carefully State 12 2 00 000 298 50 Carefully State 12 2 00 000 299 50 Carefully State 12 2 2 00 000 299 50 Carefully State 12 2 2 00 000 299 50 Carefully State 12 2 2 2 00 000 299 50 Carefully State 12 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	200 201	20 Revierg 52 420	291 291 horsystel C07*** 39 21 251 155-1 Ht (line: 8) 2 2 182 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 2	Section Page Lawrence 15 15 25 25 25 25 25 25	200	## 55 Charles Charles
		Butting Materials 24	9 17's Westerbourne 23 - 4678 2071	## Hythrofile	## 19	Securities	March Michael March Ma	## 15
	C	## 55	The content of the co		orte 12	lediums 1	2 105 V 9 105 105 105 1	Compared

Why is the world's motor industry not willing to produce a car like this?



The SMILE car, a modified Renault Twingo which yesterday achieved 88 miles per gallon in a Swiss road test



Above: General Motor's electric car, EV1, which goes on sale in the US in October. Below: British Leyland's



pay more to save the world?

they were environmentalists

who could justify owning a car at all, they certainly would. The SMILE (which Green-

peace originally wanted to call

the Gringo) produces fewer smog pollutants, such as oxides

of nitrogen and hydrocarbons.

More importantly, it cuts emis-

sions of carbon dioxide by over

motorist? The car industry

claims it knows its market inside

out, and the public are not prepared to pay extra for such

a car in an extremely competi-

Industry experts also ques-tioned whether drivers would

like the feel and sound of a two-

cylinder engine. But none of

them doubted the technical

achievements which Greenneace Germany's deutschmarks

have purchased from Swiss engine and car designers.

Europe's car manufacturers

have promised national governments and the European

Commission to cut the fuel

new car by 10 per cent between the early 1990s and 2005. The

SMILE goes way beyond that. But it does not quite win the holy grail for the industry, which

has been set at 3 litres to cov-

er 100 kilometres. The German

industry, by far Europe's largest,

may begin manufacturing "mi-

cro cars", urban runabouts which achieve that, in a few

But if such vehicles only fill

a niche market, then they will

not bring down the average

fuel efficiency. The industry

has been telling the EU Com-

mission that an average of 5

litres per 100 km for all new cars

cannot be delivered by 2010.

shock of 1973 manufacturers

bave been showing off concept

position of this law has been put

Ever since the first oil price

years' time.

But what about the ordinary

40 per cent.

tive marketplace.

NICHOLAS SCHOON

According to Greenpeace, its SMILE car would cost about 12 per cent more than a conventional Twingo - or around £870 extra - if it went into mass pro-

Would anyone buy it? If they were economists, driving the annual average mileage or more, they would - because the extra price would be covered by fuel

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

ACROSS Playing music without study. and sounding unhappy about

the pace (5-7) Student, looking less wellfed, receiving second instal-

ment of grant (7) 10 Lady's mantle: most of fur is skin of sable (7) 11 A cuekoo, on reflection, is a

fish! (4) 12 Soldier's allowed a waistcoat

13 What sounds like top dog (4) In Picture Shakspeare's warring family (not upper-class) (7) 17 Deception: misleading the

girls? That's not right (7) 18 Confectionery that is second in range (7)
21 Secondrel getting a company 5
to import a Caribbean drink

23 Scoundrel snatching King or

24 Clues given on the radio to part of college name (5) 25 Lincoln died in his steep? (4) 28 Train driver perhaps left

mother stuck in wel weather on board (3-4)
30 Secure cable after accident on stem of frigate - a notori-

ous case (5,7) DOWN Mum taking girl on the river Passed on - on into confines

of grave (4) Motor - see is burn out before end of race (7)
Have a good effect, changing leader or ruler (7) Regular payment to suffice, lease being reduced (4) 6 Savings one would be cuckoo 27

to get rid of? (4-3)

The longest at No. 1? (3-4.6) Person ticked off after taking

drug in part of hotel (9, 4)
Jazz player has one entering
the floor (5) Certainly restricting a King's lifespan in most cases (5)

19 Bullfight - girl gets to go round free (7) 20 Tin cans constructed of tin? Advice to have effect mostly -

individual stops short (7) 2 Driver finishing early, before time - the idiot (7) I'm enthralled by Hosea, Moses - or another OT prophet (4)

hiçle black (4)

cars with dramatically improved fuel efficiency. But, with very few exceptions, no prototype has come anywhere near mass production. In California, local laws make it mandatory for manufacturers to market a certain proportion of ultra-low emission vehicles. But the im-

spond to the challenge.

ing in the wrong direction."
In a road test in Switzerland
yesterday covering a 200km
course, the Smile's fuel consumption was 43 per cent less than a conventional Twingo. It also did 49 per cent better than a Ford Escort and 45 per cent better than a Volkswagen Polo. The test, which covered ur-

ban, countryside and motorway driving, was overseen by the German certification body, TUV, and its Swiss counterpart. EMPA, to ensure fair play. Greenpeace says its vehicle performs just as well in terms of acceleration and top speed as the ordinary Twingo - although it feels that cars should never be driven faster than 130kph (81mph).

As well as using far less petrol it also produces correspondingly less carbon dioxide rising emissions of which are the main cause of man-made global warming, and vehicle fumes make a big contribution. It produces no more smogcausing pollntants than a Twingo, and meets the tougher European Union smog standards which come into force

Environment Correspondent

Greenpeace yesterday challenged Europe's car makers to slash fuel consumption and the cost of motoring when the environmental group unveiled its "Smîle" car.

The "small, intelligent, light and efficient" vehicle, a modified Renault Twingo, does almost twice as many miles a gallon as its conventional counterpart and cars of similar size, without using any radical new

technologies.

John Randle, a former director of engineering at Jaguar who is now a professor of automotive engineering, said the re-engineering that the envi-ronmental campaign group had achieved was "perfectly logical", and called on car makers to re-

The kind of changes that have been made here might actually make the car cheaper," he said. "At the moment we're go-

and conflict within the international organisation. The object is to identify solutions to environmental problems, then confront a recalcitrant industry with them. Greenpeace picked Renault's best-selling Twingo because of its striking looks and size; very compact, but still large enough

> The re-engineering was done by three Swiss companies amid considerable secrecy and the most important change was the engine. The Smile uses a fourstroke engine with two cylinders in the horizontally opposed, "boxer" position. Its capacity is just 360cc - less than one-third

of the Twingo's normal engine. The project was entirely funded and run by Greenpeace Germany, the wealthiest and best-supported of its national organisations, and it cost 2.5 million German marks (£1.1 m). Wolfgang Lohbeck, the pro-

ject leader, said: "People within Greenpeace are still saying rector of Birmingham Univerthat by making the car better we sity's Automotive Engageering
The vehicle represents Greenpeace's Higgest and most
expensive effort in solutions orienter campaigning" - a new that by making the car better we sity's Automotive Engageering
are identifying ourselves with a Centre, questioned whether the
transport tool we should be modified car would be more exfighting. But it's impossible for pensive in production. Based on
us to ignorithe car - we decided Greenpeace's descriptions of that by making the car better we sity's Automotive Engineering are identifying ourselves with a Centre, questioned whether the transport tool we should be modified car would be more ex-

The shape was altered using glass fibre and carbon fibre-reinforced plastic to reduce the wind resistance. Drag coefficient (cW) cut Swiss-made Wenko AG two cylinder petrol engine with pressure wave supercharger, 360 cc, 55 horsepower at 5,500 rpm. During ordinary driving from 0.37 to 0.25. the little engine is working nearer to full power than a conventional engine and is therefore running more efficiently. When more power is needed (acceleration, uphili, motorway)

GEAR BOX -Five speed, manual gear shift with ratios adjusted to complement the

strategy which has caused debate

The Twingo's weight was cut from 845 kg (including full tank) to 650 kg - a 23 per cent cut. Half of the saving came from having a smaller engine, which needed a smaller battery, radiator and exhaust system). Smaller petrol tank saved weight, and so did lighter chairs and suspensions, drum brakes and wheels.

we had to change it." Con-

sumers wanted cars, and more

and more would be built as mar-

TYRES AND WHEELS Light-weight wheel Michelin tyres enable wheel weight to be cut

the alterations, he said he would

be surprised if the car was 35 per cent more fuel-efficient overall

than a conventional Twingo. But

the changes were a step in the

In the past six years the av-

erage car has become about 30

per cent heavier and fuel effi-

ciency - which improved drasti-

cally in the early Eighties - has

stagnated or even declined, be-

cause of extra safety equipment

such as side-impact protection bars, and the public's perceived

demand for higher specifications

(such as electrically operated

Europe's leading car engi-

windows) and performance,

right direction.

kets in developing countries expanded. Greenpeace had to show how cars could be made less environmentally destructive, easily and cheaply. We wanted a drop-in solution, changes that could be made

to carry an average family. Its objective was to halve its fuel consumption, but it has not yet quite achieved it. now without futuristic technologies," Herr Lohbeck said. Yesterday the motor industry in Britain was unaware of the Greenpeace project - with the exception of Renault, which has given no co-operation to

The Twingo has proved a runaway success on the Continent. but the French car giant has not released it in Britain as yet - although it might offer a righthand drive version in two year's

Renault UK's view was that even if the modifications added only £300 to the price, that would turn away buyers. "Customers won't pay, it's as simple as that," a spokesman said. But Professor Randle, di-

neering consultancy, Ricardo, which is based in Shoreham-on-Sea, West Sussex, said the Smile car's achievements were not remarkable. "These fuel savings are good, but they have been bettered by the car manufacturers - they

know about this kind of techgology," a spokesman said. So why were such cars not built? That's for the manufacturers to answer. Thilo Bode, executive director of Greenpeace Interna-

tional, said: "The car industry is obstructing feasible technology which would belp prevent climate change."

Renewing your nome insurance in August or September?

If you are 50 or over, save with SAGA **Home Insurance**

You will know how expensive home insurance can be, particularly if your insurance company is also having to insure younger, less careful householders. Thankfully, if you are aged 50 or over you can benefit from SAGA Home Insurance - a superior household insurance that is only available to mature, responsible people like you.

SAGA Home Insurance can offer you genuine savings over other policies, while giving you cover that fully protects your home and possessions. So if your home insurance is due for renewal soon, or if you would simply like to find out how much you could save with SAGA Home Insurance, call us today - free.

The Saga Price Promise

If you find another comparable policy at a lower price within 2 months of taking out SAGA Home Insurance, we will refund you the difference.



Saga Services Ltd would like to send you information about services provided by other Saga companies and may pass details to these companies to enable them to do so.



Cover is comprehensive and low cost.

Free Saga Assist service -24 Hour Domestic Helpline. 24 Hour Legal Helpline.

24 Hour Glazing Service.

Discounts for home security.

Free pen with your quotation.

Call us today

For your free no obligation quote and a free Saga pen, simply call us on the number below. We will be pleased to answer any questions you have on SAGA Home Insurance.

0800 414 525 ext.3824

Lines open Monday to Friday 9am - 6pm, Saturdays 9am - 1pm

	o us in an envelope - you do not need a stamp:
Sumamer	Please rich share and

Mr / Mrs / Miss Initial: Boildings Cove _Telephone No: Answer YES to the following and you could save up to 15% Date of birth: Mrs/Miss/Ms: Does your home have an acqually Is a 5-lever mortise lock fitted to the Yes 🖸 No 🗇 Type of Property Are all other external doors fitted with key-operated looks or bolts? Detached House: Semi - Detached House: Yes D No D Are secure key-operated locks fitted to Detached Bungalow: Yes 🗇 - No 🗇 Are you an active member of Police Approved Neighbourhood Other: Please specify: Yes 🏻 No 🕽 Approximately when was it built ? For iosurance on listed holldings, those of non-standard construction, flats and marsonettes, or if you are the landlord of 1946-1979